Why Focus on Waste Paint?

• Large volume:
  – 2.3 gallons of paint sold/person/year
  – ~80% is latex
  – ~10% is leftover
  – ~ 5,300 gallons leftover/year in just the 7 Eastern Rensselaer County communities

• Costly to manage
  – latex can overwhelm HHW collections
  – illegal to dispose as a liquid – requires time/$
  – disposal is not free
Why Focus on Waste Paint?

• Creates issues for transfer stations and HHW collections
  – liquids leak from equipment at transfer stations or over the road

• Disposal can cause environmental impacts
  – even latex creates air quality issues when left open to dry out

• Disposal is a waste of valuable resources!

Current Management Options

• Oil-based: HHW collection events or facilities
• Latex: dry out or mix to make solid & dispose in the trash

Proper management is not convenient
  – leads to accumulation
  – improper disposal
USDA Waste Paint Project

• Priority waste for Northeast states
• Asked NEWMOA to apply for funding
• Focus on rural areas:
  – communities in Maine, New York, and Vermont volunteered
• Promote strategies to:
  – prevent paint waste
  – increase reuse & recycling

E Rensselaer Workgroup

Project Partners:
• Eastern Rensselaer County Solid Waste Management Authority
• New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Additional stakeholders:
• Municipalities – Nassau, Pittstown & Schaghticoke
• Retailer – Wiley Brothers
• Waste Management, Inc. – At Your Door Program
Project Activities

• To Date:
  – conference calls to discuss issues & potential options
  – developed brochure on leftover latex paint best management practices – handout
  – organized this workshop

• Coming Up:
  – handout for consumers with local info
  – develop recommendations & next steps