



Hazardous Materials Risks

Painting and Decorating

There are several hazardous materials to be aware of when painting and decorating, including:

- Paints
- Thinners and Solvents
- Adhesives
- Paint Removers

These substances are **TOXIC** to the environment and must **NOT** be disposed of in storm water drains or onto the ground!

Review the following best management practices on how to properly store and dispose of hazardous materials.

**Keep your workplace safe
and Delta's waterways clean!**



Best Management Practices

Commercial and Industrial Painting

- Many industrial paints and undercoats are solvent based and require using solvents for equipment cleaning. When not in active use, cover solvent containers with tight-fitting lids to limit evaporation.
- Bulk volumes (pails, drums, totes) of paints and solvents should be stored in areas with spill containment. Spill cleanup materials must be present in the facility.
- Spent solvents, solvent sludge, and used spill cleanup materials must be collected for hazardous waste disposal.
- Shavings, dusts, or other waste material with specialized paints that contain preservatives or metals are also considered hazardous waste and requires special disposal.
- Paint booth filters from may be considered hazardous waste if paints are solvent based or has preservatives.
- Washout from acrylic and other water based paints may be discharged into the sanitary sewer. Best practice is to allow the washwater to settle so that solids can be removed.

Home Painting

- Use water based paints whenever possible. Look for the words “latex” or “clean with water” on the label. These paints are less toxic than oil-based paints.
- For water-based paints, paint out the brushes as much as possible and rinse the brushes in a location connected to the sanitary sewer.
- **Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into the street, gutter or storm water drain or over your house's weeping tile.**
- For oil-based paints, paint out the brushes as much as possible and then clean with paint thinner. Filter and reuse thinners and solvents. Spent solvents and sludge can be dropped off at specific recycling depots; contact the Recycling Council of BC (flip over) for the closest depot near you.



Improper disposal of paint washout in to a storm sewer connection results in contamination a local creek.

Spill Prevention and Treatment

Spills of paint or solvents must be cleaned up immediately to prevent products from entering the storm water drainage system. Clean up procedures can be found in a product's Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

In the event of a spill to the environment, contact Emergency Management BC (EMBC) at 1-800-663-3456. If the spill is of a chemical that is flammable, toxic, corrosive or otherwise hazardous, call 9-1-1 immediately and ask for the Fire Department.

You Are Responsible

Any persons responsible for contaminating the storm water system may be held liable under the following environmental legislation:

- Federal Fisheries Act
- BC Hazardous Waste Regulation
- BC Environmental Management Act
- Delta Storm Sewer Bylaw No. 5786

Did You Know?

Solvents and thinners can be reused!

Place used thinners or solvents aside in a closed jar and allow paint particles to settle. Drain off the clear liquid which you can then reuse. Allow the solids to harden and take them to your closest paint drop off facility.

For More Information

City of Delta

www.delta.ca

Climate Action & Environment

604-946-3253

Engineering

604-946-4141

Delta Fire Department

604-946-8541

Recycling Council of BC Hotline

604-732-9253

Regeneration (Product Care)

604-592-2972

www.regeneration.ca

BC Ministry of the Environment Spill Reporting Hotline

1-800-663-3456

If you witness a spill or chemicals being poured into a storm drain, please contact either Delta Climate Action and Environment or the Ministry of Environment immediately .

The City of Delta
4500 Clarence Taylor Crescent
Delta, BC V4K 3E2

Delta

Environmentally Responsible Best Practices for Disposal of Paint Materials



We Need Your Help!

**Keep Delta's water and
delicate ecosystems clean!**