



Starting a Paint Recycling Program

1. **Collection.** Solicit donations of latex paint from your local community. Flyers and email are just one way to spread the word about collection and recycling. Consider working with a local neighborhood group to organize a drop-off day or site at a community center or public meeting place.
2. **Sorting.** As paint is collected, sort the containers by color (greens, blues, yellows, whites, etc.) making sure no oil-based paints have been collected.
3. **Processing.** Strain collected latex paint using fabric paint strainers. Pour individual sorted colors into 5-gallon paint buckets creating a bucket for each color (green, blue yellow, white, etc.). Once all of the paint has been strained, thoroughly mix. Pour equal parts from each 5-gallon bucket into another 5-gallon container to create a uniform color. Again mix thoroughly.
4. **Packaging.** Repackage paint in epoxy-lined quart and gallon paint cans (available at hardware stores). Mark with label identifying color of paint and painting instructions.
5. **Distribution.** Paint may be used just as any other latex household paint. Barter, sell or donate to local community organizations.

NOTE: Oil-based paints CANNOT be mixed with latex paints. Please consult your local government about proper oil-based paint disposal.



Starting a Neighborhood Composting Network

1. **Network.** Talk to your neighbors to identify those interested in composting. Try to identify people who live in your neighborhood or near the location of the compost bin.
2. **Location.** Select a compost bin design that will accommodate the amount of kitchen scraps and yard waste generated by the program. Find a suitable location for the compost bin such as a community garden, a municipal park, or a large yard.
3. **Collection.** Collect waste on bi-monthly basis and mix into compost bin. To break down waste material more quickly, turn the entire compost pile often.
4. **Distribution.** Work soil from compost bin into yard and garden. Share compost with participants from the composting network.