

PAINTING

Paints, solvents, adhesives, and toxic chemicals from painting operations often make their way into the “*permit-holding entity here*” storm sewer system and DO NOT GET TREATED before reaching the local waterways. These wastes pollute drinking water and make waters unhealthy and unsafe for people and wildlife.

The following practices will help prevent storm water pollution.

General Business Practices

Keep all paint products and wastes away from the street, gutter, and storm sewers. Reuse paint thinner by setting used thinner aside in a closed, labeled jar to settle out paint particles; pour off the clear liquid for future use. Wrap dried paint residue in newspaper and dispose of it in the trash.

Water-Based Paints

Purchase water-based paints whenever possible. Look for products labeled “latex” or “clean up with water.”

Recycle or Reuse Paints

Recycle or reuse leftover paint by using it for touch-ups or by giving it to someone who can use it, such as a theater group, school, city, or other community organization. If you are unable to give it away, contact **XXX-XXXX** for information on hazardous waste pickup.

Paint Cleanup

Avoid cleaning brushes and rinsing paint containers in a street, gutter, or storm sewer. For water-based paints, “brush out” as much paint as possible, and rinse in the sink. For oil-based paints, “brush out” as much paint as possible, clean with thinner, and then filter and reuse thinner or solvent.

Paint Removal

Chemical paint-stripping residue, chips and dust from marine paints, and paints containing lead or tributyl tin are hazardous wastes. For disposal information, call **XXX-XXXX**. When stripping or cleaning building exteriors with high-pressure water, block storm sewers and divert the wash water onto a designated dirt area. Check with your local wastewater treatment authority to find out if you can collect building-cleaning water and discharge it to the sanitary sewer.

For more information, call your city’s storm water representative at **XXX-XXXX**.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document represents a careful consolidation, distillation, and restatement of storm water-related information, policies, and regulations obtained from other sources including the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the North Dakota Department of Health, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and the United States Census Bureau. Prior to implementing any of the best management practices and recommendations stated within this document, it is suggested the reader review the original sources of this information in detail.