

Message

From: Daguillard, Robert [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BBE9682B940C4F2C90732E4D37355DD4-DAGUILLARD,]
Sent: 5/29/2018 7:30:46 PM
To: Skye McEowen [Ex. 6]
CC: Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]
Subject: FW: Questions for This Old House Magazine

Skye, on background, please:

1. Are VOC's a factor people need to consider when it comes to disposing of small amounts of paint?

Even small amounts of paint can release some volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Paints can release some VOCs whenever containers are open and to some degree they can release some VOCs even when they are closed or stored.

If so, what can people do to curb that when handling disposal?

When handling paints (even small amounts) it is important increase ventilation. If not using paints, do not store or leave open paint containers indoors. Be sure to follow any directions given by the manufacturer and your local jurisdiction about disposal. Try to purchase paints in limited quantities – buy only as much as you will use for the project or be able to use right away.

2-4. For leftover or unwanted paint, we recommend that the public check local places that take donations (schools, places of faith, charities, non-profits) to see if they will accept paint donations. Otherwise, since recycling is handled on the local level, the public should contact their local recycling provider or solid waste or recycling county or city office for ways to recycle or properly disposal of paint in their area.

5. Is there a safe way to store paint if you don't want it in a can? Plastic containers, jars? Or is the can the safest bet?

From the standpoint of emissions it is best to keep/store paints tightly sealed in the properly labeled containers provided by the manufacturer. VOCs from paints even when in original containers can be released to some degree when they are closed. Using other containers may increase the chance of release of VOCs as well as in some cases impact the properties of the paint itself.

Cheers, R.

Robert Daguillard
Office of Media Relations
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[Ex. 6]

From: Skye McEowen [Ex. 6]
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 10:49 AM

To: Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: Questions for This Old House Magazine

Hi Robert,

I understand, thank you for the update!

Best,

Skye

On Wed, May 23, 2018 at 10:47 AM Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov> wrote:

Skye, a quick follow-up. Monday's a federal holiday, as you know, so we'll aim to reply to you by Tuesday.

Cheers, R.

Robert Daguillard

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Ex. 6

From: Daguillard, Robert

Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 10:37 AM

To: 'Skye McEowen'

Ex. 6

Subject: RE: Questions for This Old House Magazine

Fantastic. Thank you, Skye. It was good talking to you yesterday.

Cheers, R.

Robert Daguillard

Office of Media Relations

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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Ex. 6

From: Skye McEowe [redacted] **Ex. 6**
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 10:37 AM
To: Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>
Subject: Questions for This Old House Magazine

Hi Robert,

My name is Skye McEowen. I was given your email from media relations at EPA.

I had a few questions I was hoping to get some guidance on for my piece on what to do with leftover amounts of paint. Some of my research has shown some of these questions may vary by county or state with things like oil-paint disposal. Let me know if you can if that may be the case for any of these.

- 1. Are VOC's a factor people need to consider when it comes to disposing of small amounts of paint? If so, what can people do to curb that when handling disposal?**
- 2. What about just empty paint cans? Say someone used up all the paint, so at most there is a tiny amount left. Can the can be recycled, or still thrown out since there was paint?**
- 3. Can paint cans with a small amount of hardened paint (hardened with a hardener or left to dry) be recycled? Or do they need to just be disposed of since there's still some paint? This would entail latex paint.**
- 4. Do oil-based paints need to be taken to a hazardous waste drop-off?**
- 5. Is there a safe way to store paint if you don't want it in a can? Plastic containers, jars? Or is the can the safest bet?**

I'm aiming to have a draft ready by the end of the day next Tuesday (5/28), so if I could get these answers included by then, that would be great.

This Old House also fact-checks these pieces, so let me know if this email would be best for a fact-checker to reach out to.

Thanks in advance,

Skye