



# 2026 PaintCare CO Recap

Recycle Colorado Summit

June 2, 2026





# Colorado PaintCare Team



**Sonya Hansen**

Colorado Program Manager

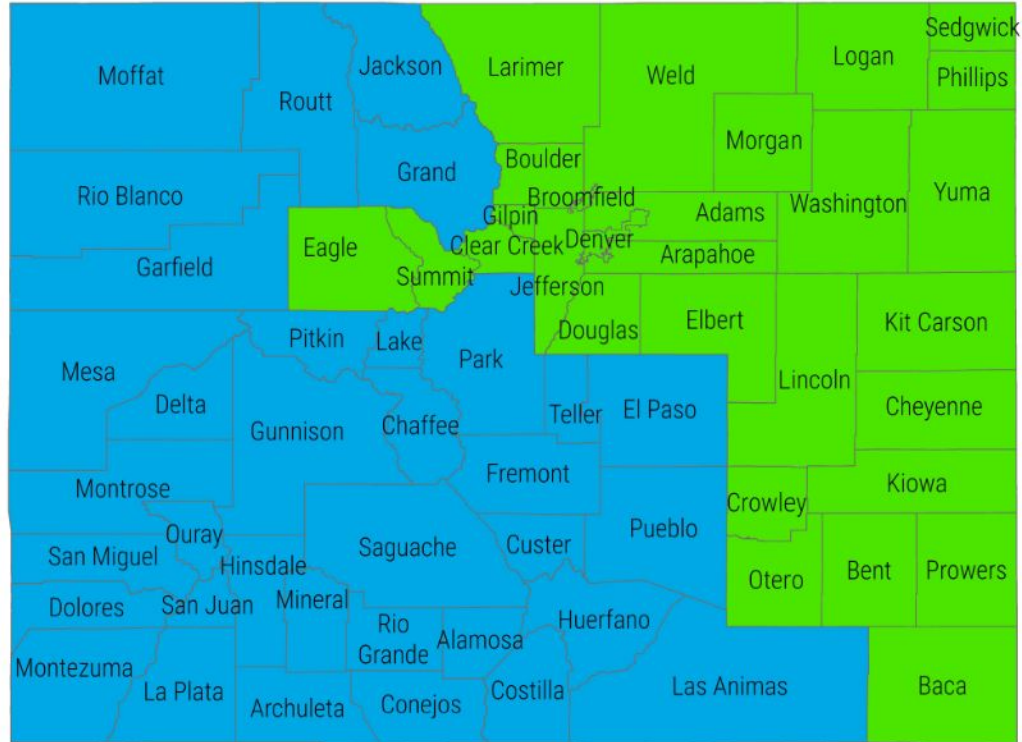
Statewide



**Dave Jackson**

Colorado Program Coordinator

Western Slope & Colorado Springs



**Anne Marie Wilson**

Colorado Program Coordinator

Denver Metro & Eastern Plains







# American Coatings Association & PaintCare

- **American Coatings Association (ACA)**  
Member organization that advocates on behalf of manufacturers of paint and coatings for architectural, industrial maintenance, original equipment manufacturer, and specialty coatings and raw material suppliers. Membership is voluntary.
- **PaintCare**  
A subsidiary of ACA, PaintCare is a stewardship organization that designs and operates the paint manufacturer-led recycling programs in states that pass paint stewardship laws.

## Why PaintCare?

- Estimated 10% of architectural paint goes unused each year.

10%



That's approximately 84 million gallons. Enough to paint around 8 and a half million homes.



Statistics shown here were calculated as of Jan. 2025

## PaintCare Products

The following architectural coatings are recyclable through the PaintCare program. These products can be taken to one of thousands of PaintCare drop-off sites in states with paint stewardship programs. These recycling programs are paid for by a nominal fee added to the purchase price of paint at retailers in PaintCare states.



### PAINT

House paints include most coatings that you would use to paint your walls, floors, ceilings, and trim. These can be interior or exterior paints, including primers.



### CLEAR COATINGS

Clear coatings and top coatings are all part of the program, even though many people do not refer to them as paint.

### STAIN

Staining products for decks and woodwork are all included unless they're for industrial use.



### SEALERS

Sealers for wood, concrete, or tile are part of the program unless they're for industrial use.



### OTHER

Water-based roof coatings, primers, field, and lawn paints are part of the program unless they're for industrial use.



## Not Covered by PaintCare

The products below are not part of the PaintCare program. They do not have a fee and are not accepted at PaintCare drop-off locations.



### PAINT

Some paints are not part of the program. Paint in spray cans, containers larger than 5 gallons, and those that are not intended for buildings (such as auto and boat paint) are not part of the program.



### SPECIAL COATINGS

Additives (such as tints and colorants) are not part of the program. Grout sealer is excluded because it is regulated differently (even though most masonry sealers are part of the program). Wood preservative treatments with pesticides are not recyclable.

### NOT PAINT

Cleaning products, polishes, waxes, furniture oils, and solvents are not covered even if they are related to painting projects.



### ART + CRAFT PAINT

Art and craft paints, including tubes of oil paint, acrylics, finger paint, and tempera are not covered by the program.

### SEMI-SOLID

Products used for patching and filling holes are not architectural coatings. If it goes on with a trowel, it's probably not part of the program.





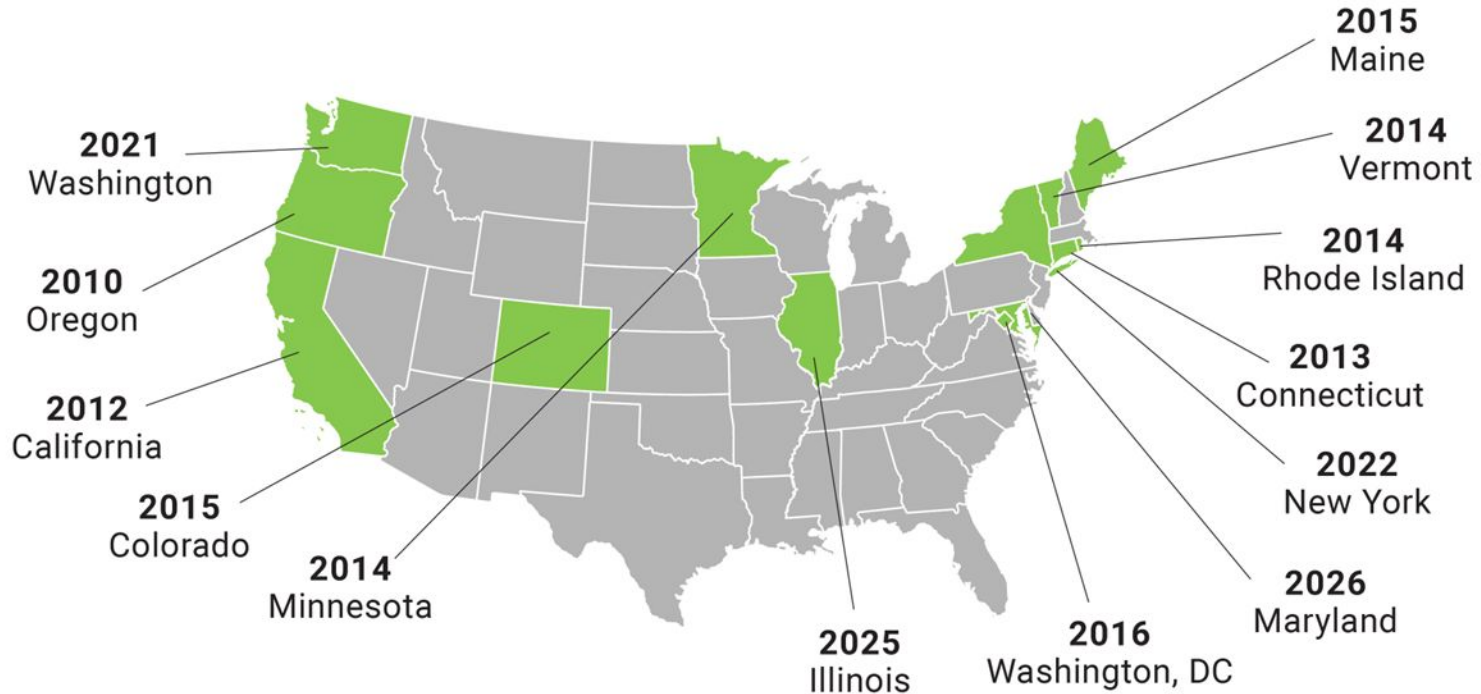
# PaintCare as a Product Stewardship Organization

- Industry-created
- Customer-facing fee
- National program with state-specific nuances





# Paint Stewardship in the US





# Paint Stewardship Legislation

- **Develop, fund, and operate comprehensive paint management program**
- Reduce, reuse, and recycle paint in an environmentally responsible manner
- Provide convenient recycling opportunities
- Conduct public outreach and education
- Develop a program plan to be approved by the state oversight agency
- Provide annual report with independent financial audit





# PaintCare Program Goals

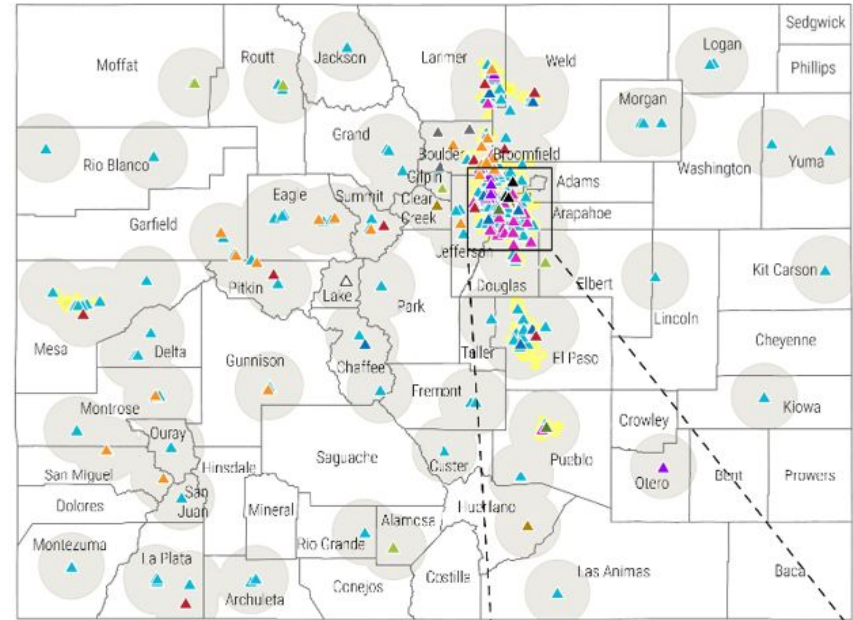


- Increase convenience and recycling opportunities
- Reduce cost and responsibility for state and local governments
- Manage paint in an environmentally responsible manner
- Conduct education and outreach
- Establish sustainable funding mechanism

# Convenience Criteria

1. Distribution
2. Density
3. Underserved Areas

Map 3. Year-Round and Supplemental Sites





# Sites and Services

- Year-round sites
  - Stores: retail, reuse
  - Facilities: environmental service companies, HHW facilities, landfills, paint recyclers, recycling centers, transfer stations
- Supplemental sites
  - Partial year of above
  - Events: HHW, Other (ABOP), Paint-Only, PaintCare
- Services
  - Large-Volume Pickups
  - HHW Door-to-Door
  - PaintCare Door-to-Door



# THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER









# Snapshots from 2025





# PC Events with PaintShare Reuse Planned for 2026

- Holyoke (NE) 05.30.2026
- Estes Park (C) 06.13.2026
- Creede (SC) 06.13.2026
- Lamar (SE) 07.25.2026
- Kremmling (C) 08.14.2026
- Springfield (SE) 08.20.2026
- Rifle (W) 08.21.2026
- Cripple Creek (C) 08.27.2026



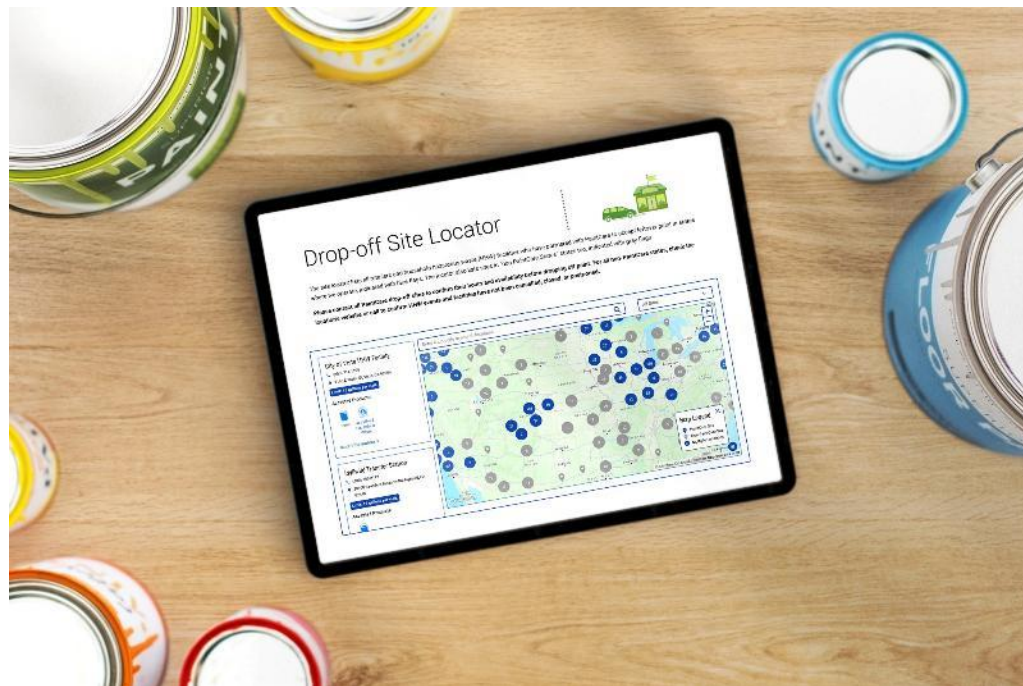




# Site Locator

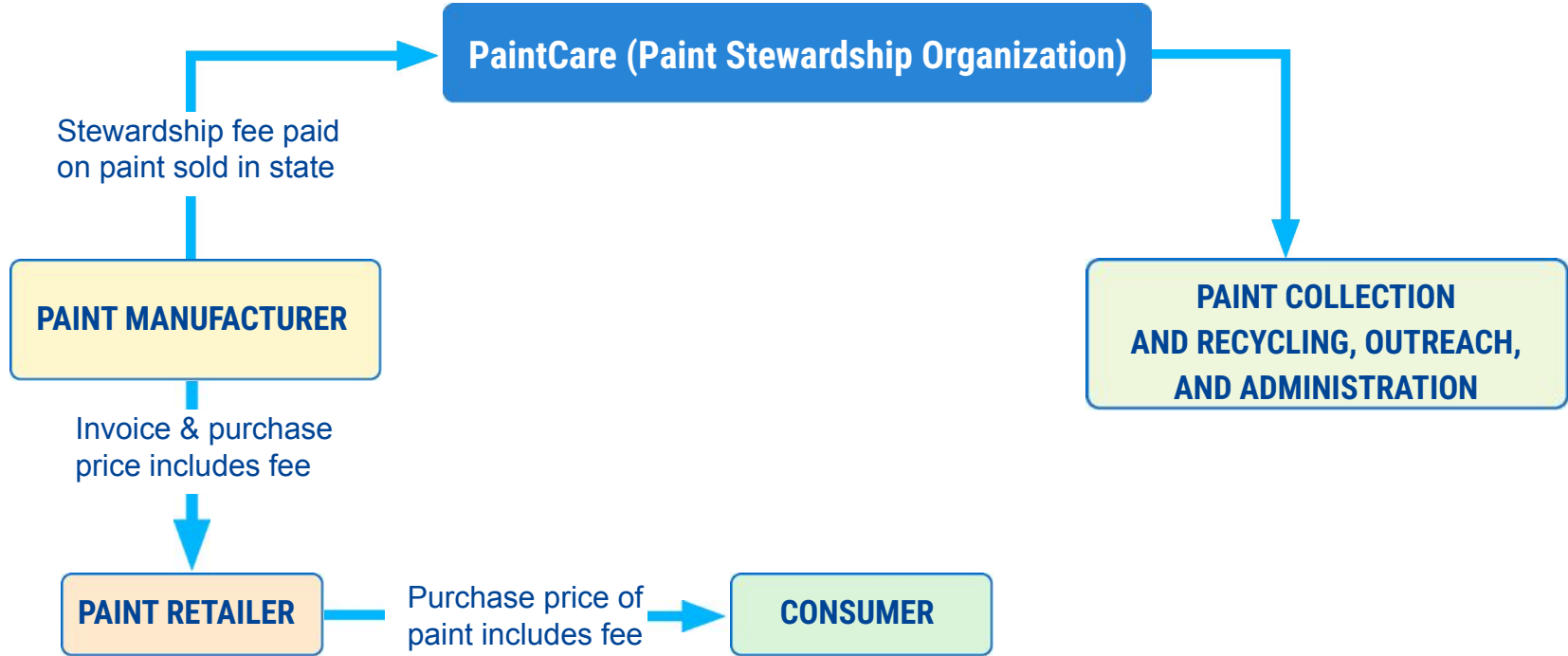


bitly





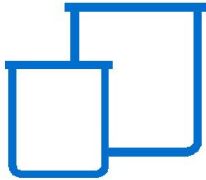
# How PaintCare is Funded





# Fee Schedule through March 31, 2026

CO: \$0.35  
(2025)



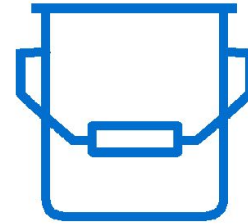
Small containers  
e.g., pints & quarts

CO: \$0.75  
(2025)



Mid-sized containers  
e.g., 1–2 gallons

CO: \$1.60  
(2025)



Larger sizes up to  
5 gallons



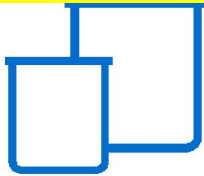


# Fee Schedule starting April 1, 2026

\$0.30–\$0.6

5

CO: \$0.50

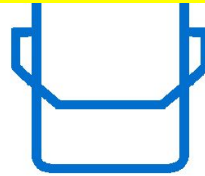


Small containers  
e.g., pints & quarts

\$0.65–\$1.4

5

CO: \$1.15

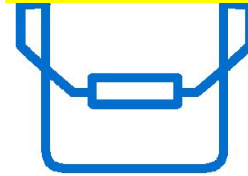


Mid-sized containers  
e.g., 1–2 gallons

\$1.50–\$2.7

5

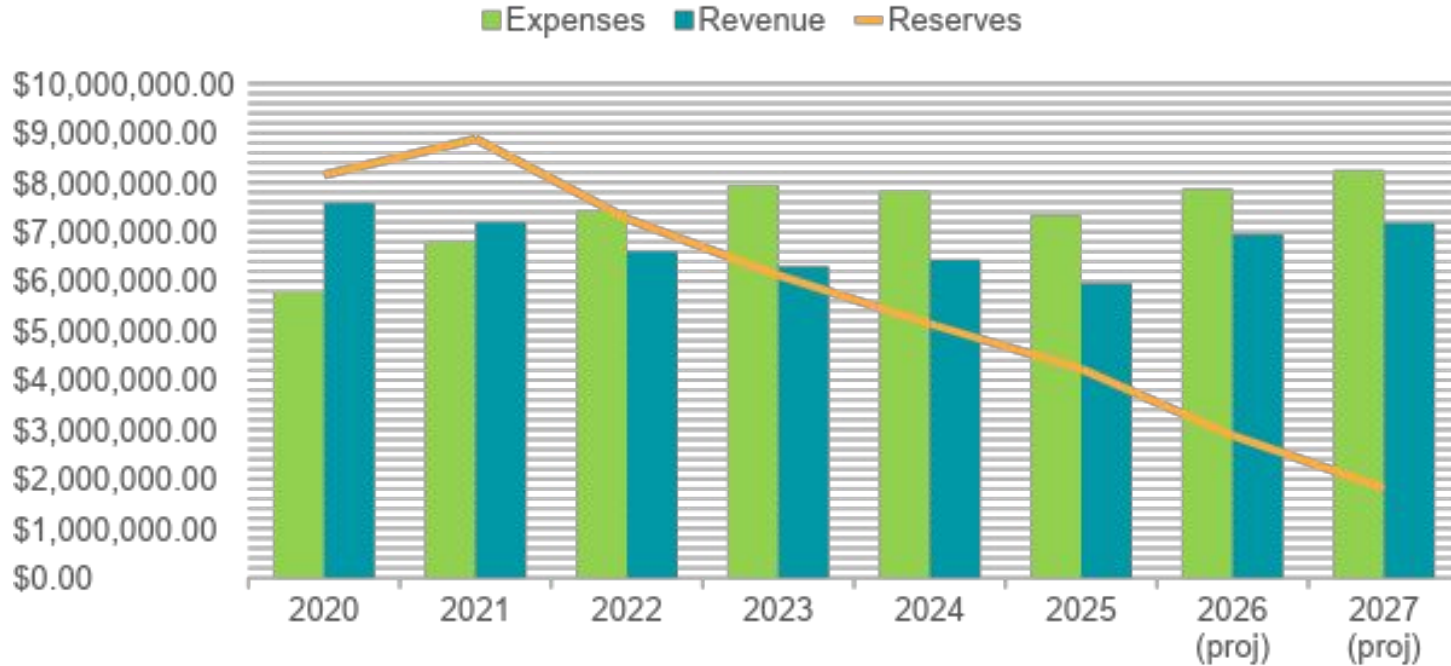
CO: \$2.25



Larger sizes up to  
5 gallons

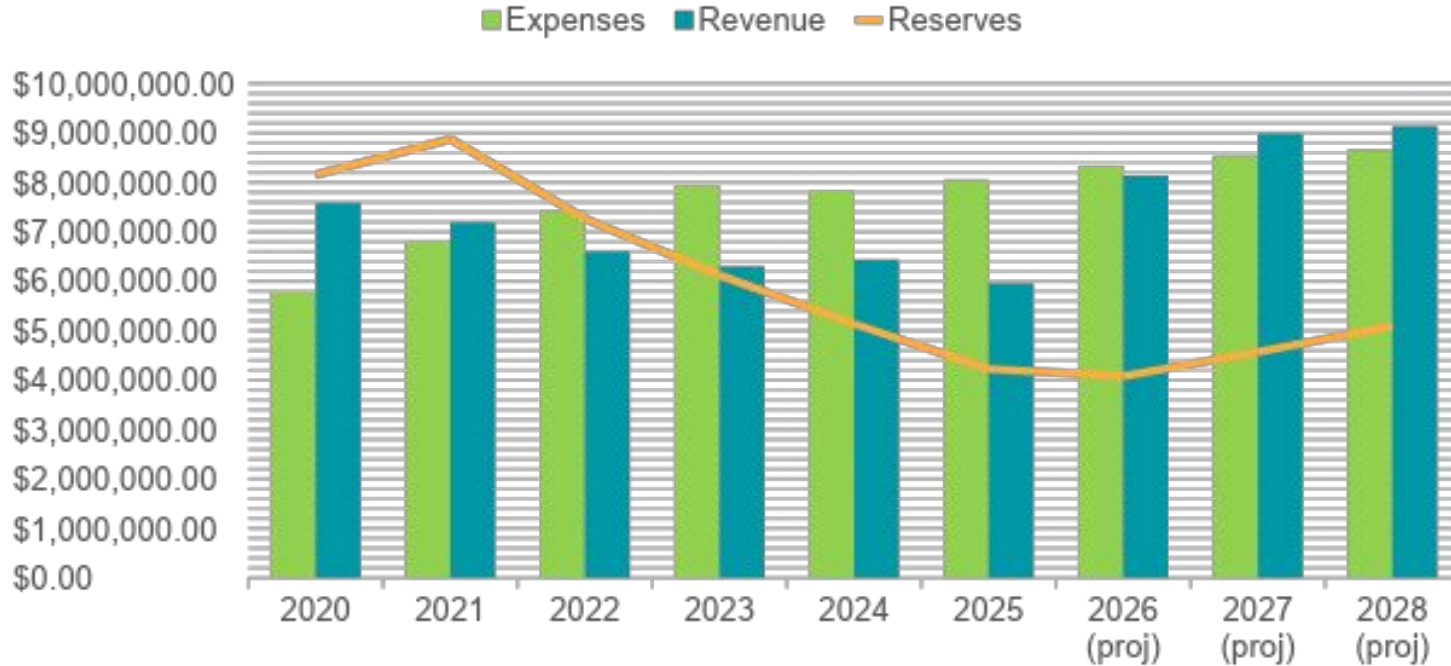


# Projections (previous assessment)





# Projections (current assessment)





## PaintCare in Colorado

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

January 1 – December 31, 2025

215  
YEAR-ROUND  
DROP-OFF SITES



785,259

GALLONS COLLECTED

87% latex  
13% oil-based

85%



Of total  
latex paint  
collected was  
recycled back  
into paint

of residents  
live within  
**15 miles**  
of a  
drop-off  
site

**96.8%**

227



Large Volume Pickups  
in Colorado

PaintCare makes it easy and convenient to recycle leftover paint in states with paint stewardship laws. A nonprofit organization created by paint companies, PaintCare sets up drop-off locations for unused paint, arranges for recycling and proper disposal, and conducts public education. To learn more or find a year-round PaintCare drop-off site near you, visit [paintcare.org](http://paintcare.org) or call (855) PAINT09.

Source: PaintCare's 2025 Colorado Annual Report for January 1 – December 31, 2025.



# paintcare.org/co

paintcare.org/states/colorado/

Table of Contents	
Program Details	
Drop Off Paint	
Products We Accept	
Large Volume Pickup (LVP) Service	
Door to Door Paint Pickup Service	
Upcoming Paint Recycling Events	
Fee and Funding	
Official Documents	✓

## Program Details

PaintCare offers drop-off sites throughout Colorado where the public can take unwanted paint for recycling. These sites are available to households, businesses, government agencies, and others with leftover paint.



220

Year-round drop-off sites



8.1 Million

Gallons collected to date (estimate)



July 2015

Program began



1,652

Large volume pickups

## Drop Off Paint

Open full width experience

PaintCare Teller County Door-to-Door Service

(720) 854-8722

CO 80863

Accepted Products:

Enter a zip code to search locations

All Sites

A map of Teller County, Colorado, showing several blue circular markers representing drop-off locations. The markers are numbered 1 through 7. The map includes labels for "Fruitland" and "Eckman".





# PaintCare 2010–2026

Estimates were calculated as of April 2026, and represent a combination of all PaintCare programs to date unless otherwise noted.

85+ MILLION GALLONS COLLECTED TO DATE



80%

Of total latex paint Collected in 2024 was recycled back into paint

3,000+

YEAR-ROUND DROP-OFF SITES



4%

OF PAINT COLLECTED IN 2024 WAS REUSED

14,250+



Large Volume Pickups



# Recovery Rate

## Gallons Collected, Sold, and Recovery Rate

Description	2023	2024	2025
Paint Collected (gallons)	807,872	841,412	785,259
New Paint Sold (gallons)	13,190,382	13,499,122	12,273,887
Recovery Rate	6.1%	6.2%	6.4%

## Container Recycling

Description	2023	2024	2025
Tons	647	724	653



# 2025 Processing Methods

## Latex Paint Processing Methods

Method	2023 Gallons	2023 Percent	2024 Gallons	2024 Percent	2025 Gallons	2025 Percent
Reuse	31,067	5	37,819	5	40,043	6
Paint-to-Paint Recycling	570,121	85	606,072	86	563,461	85
Alternative Daily Landfill Cover	5,960	<1	2,560	<1	11,815	2
Disposal	67,392	10	58,554	8	49,097	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>674,540</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>705,005</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>664,416</b>	<b>100</b>

## Oil-Based Paint Processing Methods

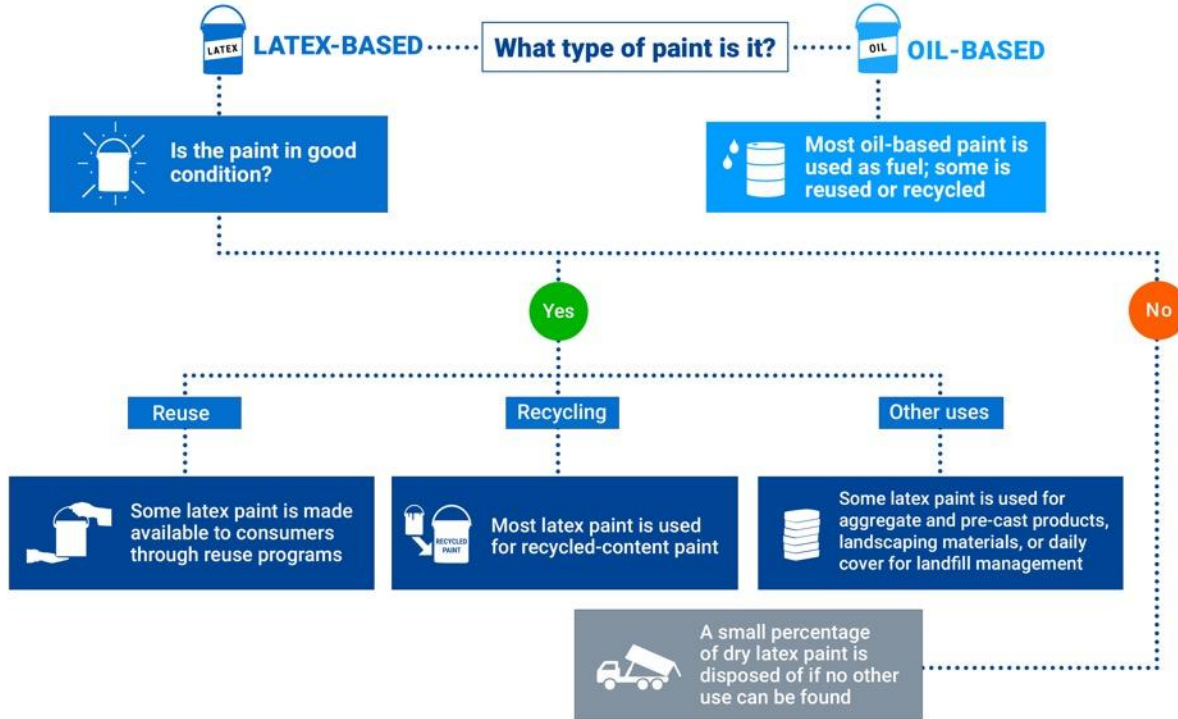
Method	2023 Gallons	2023 Percent	2024 Gallons	2024 Percent	2025 Gallons	2025 Percent
Reuse	5,621	7	6,018	7	7,613	8
Paint-to-Paint Recycling	0	0	963	1	394	<1
Energy Recovery	61,199	77	72,622	79	75,982	79
Incineration	12,980	16	12,489	14	12,500	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>79,800</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>92,092</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>96,489</b>	<b>100</b>





**NOPE**

# What happens to the leftover paint collected by PaintCare?





# PaintCare

RECYCLING MADE EASY



0:02 / 1:57



MAXIMUM CAPACITY PER LEVEL  
2,200 LBS  
MAXIMUM 8'40" HEIGHT















**Herman**  
**LUMBER**

**ACE**  
The Helpful Hardware Store!



**Drop-off Site Locator**



**What Happens to the Paint [video]**

**Sources:**

PaintCare: [www.paintcare.org](http://www.paintcare.org)

CDPHE: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/hm/paintcare-data-stats>

NAMHHA: [https://nahmma.starchapter.com/Rocky\\_Mountain\\_Chapter](https://nahmma.starchapter.com/Rocky_Mountain_Chapter)

Some Girls and a Mural: <https://www.somegirlsandamural.com/>