

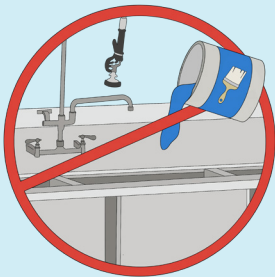
## WHY ARE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs) IMPORTANT?

BMPs are enforceable procedures, based on regulations, that minimize pollutants that are discharged to the sewer system or the environment. BMPs are needed at both industrial and commercial facilities that can produce wastewater containing higher levels of pollutants than what are typically found in residential wastewater.

## REQUIREMENTS

### COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL CODES

- ◇ All commercial painting operations that send wastewater to the sewer system must ensure their wastewater complies with all local codes and requirements.



## CONTACT US



City of Spokane  
(509) 625-4600  
[my.spokanecity.org/pretreatment](http://my.spokanecity.org/pretreatment)



Spokane County  
(509) 477-3604  
[spokanecounty.org/ipp](http://spokanecounty.org/ipp)



City of Airway Heights  
(509) 939-7038  
[cawh.org/pretreatment](http://cawh.org/pretreatment)

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### HAZARDOUS WASTE HANDLING:

Department of Ecology  
(509) 329-3400  
[www.ecy.wa.gov](http://www.ecy.wa.gov)

Spokane Regional Health District  
(509) 324-1560 ext. 3  
[www.srhd.org](http://www.srhd.org)

For hazardous spills or any other  
emergencies, call 911

July 16, 2025

## COMMERCIAL PAINTING OPERATIONS

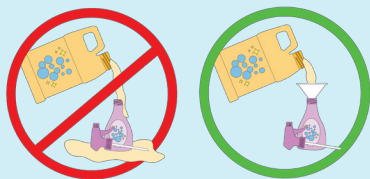


## COMMERCIAL PAINTING BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)

## COMMERCIAL PAINTING BMPs

### LATEX (WATER-BASED) PAINTS

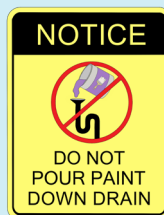
- ◇ Unused paint left over from painting activities should be poured into the original container and stored for later use.
- ◇ **Unused or unwanted paint cannot be discharged into the sanitary sewer.**
- ◇ Paint out brushes and other tools as much as possible before washing.
- ◇ For latex or water-based paints only, wash water to wash paint brushes and other tools should be collected and disposed of in the sewer system.
- ◇ Recycle, return to the supplier, or donate any unwanted latex and water-based paints. Dried paint and empty paint cans may be disposed of in the garbage.
- ◇ Wash water used to clean paint brushes and tools may also be mixed with an absorbent to reduce the wastewater and be disposed of in the garbage waste stream.



## COMMERCIAL PAINTING BMPs

### OIL-BASED PAINTS

- ◇ Pour unused paint left over from painting activities into the original container and stored for later use.
- ◇ Used brushes and rollers should be scraped or squeezed in order to remove any excess paint prior to cleaning.
- ◇ Paint thinners are commonly used to clean oil-based painting tools.
- ◇ **Paint thinner is a hazardous waste and cannot be disposed of into the sanitary sewer.**
- ◇ Wastes produced from oil-based paints such as paint thinners and wash water cannot be disposed of into the sanitary sewer system.
- ◇ Never discharge paint gun-cleaning solution to the sewer or storm drain.
- ◇ Paint chips and dust from oil-based paints that are produced from dry stripping and sand blasting must be swept up and collected as solid waste to be disposed of in the garbage.



## HAZARDOUS WASTE PAINTS

- ◇ Paints designated as hazardous wastes cannot be discharged to the sanitary sewer.
- ◇ Paint brush or washing of paints containing solvents cannot be discharged to the sewer.

## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- ◇ Mop with a minimum amount of water, and treat the mop water like sanding bucket water.
- ◇ When receiving damaged vehicles, inspect for leaks. Use drip pans if necessary.
- ◇ Vacuum dust before washing.
- ◇ Conduct all painting indoors, preferably in a paint booth.
- ◇ Use spigots, pumps, and/or funnels when pouring solvents, paints, and cleaners.
- ◇ Check out our partner's website [www.envirocertified.com](http://www.envirocertified.com) for more best management practices and pollution prevention tips.

