

Dispose of it safely

Small amounts of waste paint can be left to dry by removing the lid in an area away from children or animals. When the paint is completely dry, the paint and container can then be disposed of in your general rubbish.

- Don't tip paint down stormwater drains or down the household sink or toilet.
- Don't pour paint onto the ground or mix with other wastes.
- Large amounts of leftover or unwanted paint should be taken to a privately operated scheme such as Dulux or Resene's paint recovery scheme.

Paint recovery schemes

Both Dulux and Resene offer a paint take back scheme where you can drop off your unwanted paint and know that it will be taken care of correctly.

To find out more contact your nearest store or check out these websites:

Dulux: www.dulux.co.nz/applicator/sustainability
or phone: 0800 800 424

Resene: www.resene.co.nz/paintwise.htm
Or phone: 0800 737 363.

Other tips:

- Save unnecessary washing by wrapping your paint brush in cling wrap. This will prevent the paint drying on the brush for at least an hour – ideal for lunch breaks. Similarly put your paint roller into a plastic bag and tape it around the handle.
- To save you cleaning paint brushes and rollers whenever work is interrupted (overnight for example), put paint brushes and rollers in a container of water. A plastic pail with a tight-fitting lid is ideal when moving from one work site to another.

For further information go to:

cleanwaterways.org.nz



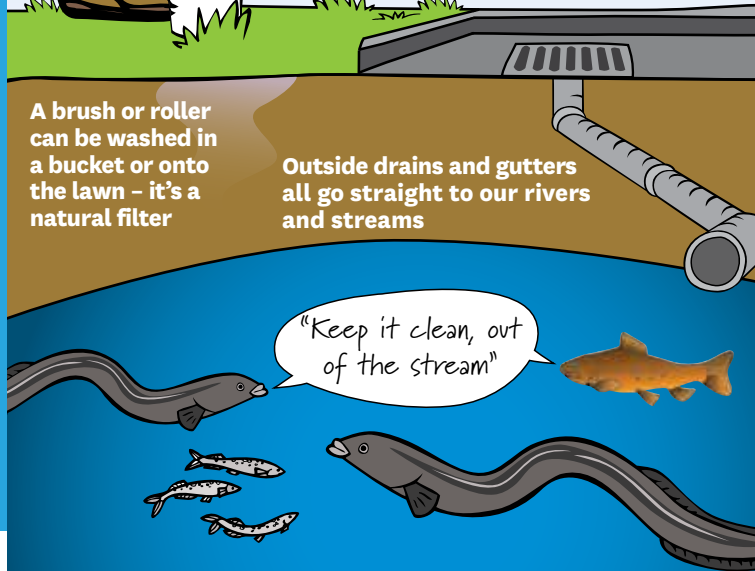
www.facebook.com/ChristchurchCleanWaterways

DIY PAINTERS: Help protect our waterways



A brush or roller can be washed in a bucket or onto the lawn – it's a natural filter

Outside drains and gutters all go straight to our rivers and streams



ARE YOU A PROFESSIONAL/TRADE PAINTER?

YES

You will need to use an approved method to dispose of your trade waste. See our trade painters brochure for more information.

NO

ARE YOU WASHING YOUR OWN PAINT BRUSHES, ROLLERS AND PAINT TRAYS?

YES

Ensure that you dispose of unwanted painting utensils correctly in the rubbish

NO

WHERE ARE YOU WASHING THEM?

Two-bucket way ✓

This is ideal

See opposite for details

Drains, paths, driveways ✗

This is not an option

All paint from brushes, rollers, trays and paint tins washed on sealed surfaces, stormwater drains or gutters will end up going untreated into the local streams and rivers.

Unauthorised disposal of paint, solvents or trade waste is a breach of the Resource Management Act 1991. You could be fined or end up in court.

Lawn or laundry sink ✓

This is OK

Small amounts of paint wash water on the lawn will be trapped by the grass, broken down by the sun and slowly dispersed through the roots. The sink is connected to the sewer and is only an option for very small quantities of paint wash water. **"One brush a day is OK".**

Paints are made up of a combination of resins, pigments, solvents and additives, many of which are harmful to the environment. If paint gets into our waterways it can smother and poison fish and plants, and make the water unfit for people to swim in or drink.

Two-bucket way for DIY brushes and rollers

For water-based paints only:

1. Wipe excess paint onto an old rag or newspaper. Allow to dry, and dispose of with household waste.
2. Wash the brush in a bucket of clean water, well away from waterways, drains and gutters.
3. Transfer the washed brush to a 2nd bucket of clean water for a final rinse. (Cover the first bucket and leave overnight so the paint solids settle to the bottom).
4. After leaving to settle overnight, pour the water from the first bucket onto grass, leaving the paint solids at the bottom.
5. Tip the paint solids onto newspaper and dispose of with your household rubbish.
6. The second container (containing the rinse water) now becomes the first container. Use this rotation system until the job is complete.

