

DON'T LET PAINT POLLUTE OUR WATERWAYS

The City of Youngstown has an MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System), a drainage system that carries rainwater runoff directly into rivers, lakes, and streams – NOT to our Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Common Sources of Paint Pollution

Washing brushes or rollers outdoors
Rinsing containers in driveways
Spills during outdoor projects
Improper disposal of leftover paint

Why is Paint a Problem?

Paint contains harmful chemicals, including:

- Solvents and heavy metals
- Toxins that can kill aquatic life
- Pollutants that degrade water quality

When dumped into a storm drain or left to wash away in the rain, paint goes straight into our waterways.

If your home was built before 1978, consider having it tested for lead-based paint.

Solid waste such as paint chips are to be disposed in trash bags or dumpsters.

How YOU Can Help

For water-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible and rinse in the sink.
For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible. Clean them with thinner and then, filter and reuse the thinner or solvent.
Never rinse paint containers outdoors or into the gutter.
Take unused paint to a household hazardous waste collection center.

For more info on recycling, donating, or properly disposing of hazardous products:

Green Youngstown: <https://youngstownohio.gov/green>

Green Team: <https://www.mahoningcountyoh.gov/255/Household-Hazardous-Waste>



FOR OTHER INQUIRIES REGARDING STORMWATER

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