



FACT SHEET

Thinners & Solvents

Hazards

- Thinners and solvents contain volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that can be toxic to inhale.
- Thinners and solvents can be absorbed through the skin.
- Thinners and solvents are flammable.
- Some solvents are carcinogenic.

Handling

- Keep thinners and solvents in closed and labeled glass or metal containers. Some plastic containers may deteriorate in contact with solvent.
- Store thinners and solvents away from sources of sparks or heat.
- **DO NOT** put left-over product in the trash or down the drain.

Management Options

- If product is unused, try to give it away to someone who can use it.
- If the product cannot be given away for reuse, and the municipal paint collection program accepts it, take it there.
- Solvents mixed with paint may be reused. First, let solids settle out and pour off liquids for future use as a solvent. Label container clearly.
- The solids may be disposed of wet at a hazardous household waste collection. Alternatively the solids may be dried out by adding absorbents such as kitty litter or vermiculite, in a well-ventilated area, away from ignition sources such as appliances with a motor or pilot light and out of reach of children and pets. Dried solids can be disposed of in the trash.
- Small amounts of used or new paint thinner can be added **into** oil-based *paint*. Add to same color paint as that used with the thinner.
- If the thinner or solvent cannot be reused through the above options, take to a Household Hazardous Products Collection Center.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

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