

Extended Producer Responsibility Commission

Background document for policy recommendation on

PAINT

Prepared by MassDEP Last updated: June 9, 2025

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Executive Summary

Americans generate more than 80 million gallons of leftover latex and oil-based paint every year.¹ In the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, an estimated 1.8 million gallons of leftover paint is generated annually, with more than half—67%—discarded in either a combustion facility (waste-to-energy) or a landfill.².³

When dumped in the trash or down the drain, leftover paint—particularly oil-based paint—can contaminate the environment with hazardous materials. According to MassDEP's most recent waste characterization studies, paint accounts for 0.13% of all solid waste annually, or 6,100 tons, in Massachusetts.⁴

Currently in Massachusetts, responsibility for the collection and appropriate disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW) falls predominately on municipalities. Most leftover paint that is recovered is collected by municipalities during an annual, one-day HHW event, which are an inconvenient and expensive method to divert paint away from household trash bins and drains, This collection method costs taxpayers approximately \$2 million annually just on paint.⁵ A third of Massachusetts residents have no access to municipal HHW collection services and only 23% of Massachusetts residents have access to year-round paint collection.⁶

Paint is highly recyclable. Leftover oil-based paint can be used as industrial fuel.⁷ Approximately 70% of collected latex paint is reused or recycled back into paint or non-paint products.⁸

Extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs for paint have been operating successfully in 12 states and the District of Columbia, beginning with Oregon in 2010. PaintCare, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established by the American Coatings Association, collects and recycles unwanted and leftover paint, preventing it from being discarded. PaintCare collects leftover paint through participating retail stores and municipal HHW collection efforts providing extensive access to this service year-round. It also provides consumers with information and resources on how much paint to buy, how

¹ Product Stewardship Institute. EPR by product: paint. From https://productstewardship.us/products/paint/, accessed May 23, 2025

² Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Department of Environmental Protection. Summary of Waste Combustor Class II Recycling Program Waste Characterization Studies (2019 & 2022). From https://www.mass.gov/guides/solid-waste-master-plan, accessed May 23, 2025.

³ Data from Product Stewardship Institute based on national sales figures scaled to the Massachusetts population multiplied by an estimated 10% of leftover paint annually.

⁴ Waste Characterization Studies 2019 & 2022.

⁵ Figures extrapolated from PaintCare Connecticut 2024 Annual Report and PaintCare Vermont 2024 Annual Report with costs indicated at \$9.11 and \$8.69 per gallon, respectively.

⁶ Data from MassDEP 2024 Recycling Survey reported by municipalities. From https://www.mass.gov/lists/recycling-solid-waste-data-for-massachusetts-cities-towns, accessed June 6, 2025.

⁷ Coatings World. EPR achievements: the case of paint in the U.S. November 2019: p. 42. From https://productstewardship.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/EPR-Achievements-The-Case-of-Paint-in-the-U.S.-Published.pdf, accessed May 23, 2025.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ See details at https://www.paintcare.org/.

to store paint longer, and ideas on how to use leftover paint. To date, PaintCare programs have collected nearly 80 million gallons of unwanted paint, 80% of which is recycled.¹⁰



¹⁰ PaintCare.com, Our Story. From <a href="https://www.paintcare.org/our-story/#:~":text=To%20date%20PaintCare%20has%E2%80%A6%20*%20Collected%20an,pickups.%20*%20Hosted%20381%20paint%20drop%2Doff%20events, accessed May 23, 2025.

Extended Producer Responsibility Commission Recommendation

The Commission recommends the Massachusetts legislature enact legislation establishing an extended producer responsibility program for paint by July 1, 2026. The Commission recommends the development and implementation of a program (e.g., PaintCare) that aligns with programs already in place in other Northeast states (Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, Vermont, and New York), to provide consistency across the region.

The Commission acknowledges proposed paint EPR legislation under consideration before the Massachusetts legislature at time of report publication: H.886, which includes aerosol-based paint, and S.647. 11.12

¹¹ The 194th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Bill H.886, "An act relative to paint recycling." From https://malegislature.gov/Bills/194/H886, accessed May 23, 2025.

¹² The 194th General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Bill S.647, "An act relative to paint recycling." From https://malegislature.gov/Bills/194/H886, accessed May 23, 2025.

Background: The Problem

Americans generate more than 80 million gallons of leftover latex and oil-based paint every year.¹³ In Massachusetts, an estimated 1.8 million gallons of leftover paint is generated annually, with more than half—67%—disposed of in either a combustion facility (waste-to-energy) or a landfill (see Table 1).^{14,15} According to MassDEP waste characterization studies, paint accounts for 0.13% of all solid waste annually, or 6,100 tons, in Massachusetts.¹⁶

Table 1. — Paint generation and disposition in Massachusetts (estimated)

| Paint generation and disposition | Gallons (est.) | Percent of total |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Total leftover paint generated annually | 1,800,000 | 100% |
| Discarded in trash | 1,200,000 | 67% |
| Landfill | 420,000 | 24% |
| Massachusetts combustion facility | 780,000 | 43% |
| Recycled, reused, collected with household hazardous waste, or disposed down drain/sewer | 600,000 | 33% |
| Processed by RECOLOR® into recycled paint¹7 | 360,000 | 60% |
| No data available yet | 240,000 | 40% |
| No data available yet | 240,000 | |

Based on a 2007 study by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released at a meeting of the Paint Product Stewardship Initiative, approximately 10% of consumer-purchased paint goes unused.¹⁸

When dumped in the trash or down the drain, leftover paint—particularly oil-based paint—can contaminate the environment with hazardous materials. According to the U.S. EPA, leftover paint can also contain volatile organic compounds, fungicides, and, in the case of very old paint, significant quantities of hazardous metals such as mercury and lead.

While latex paint is far less environmentally hazardous than solvent-based paints, the primary environmental toxicity of latex paint is to fish and aquatic life as a result of improper disposal into the water system. ¹⁹ Other releases occur through wastewater treatment plants, illegal dumping or leachate from landfills into ground and surface water.

¹³ Product Stewardship Institute. EPR by product: paint. From https://productstewardship.us/products/paint/, accessed May 23, 2025.

¹⁴ Waste Characterization Studies 2019 & 2022.

¹⁵ Data from Product Stewardship Institute based on national sales figures scaled to the Massachusetts population multiplied by an estimated 10% of leftover paint annually.

¹⁶ Waste Characterization Studies 2019 & 2022.

¹⁷ RECOLOR® is a women-owned surplus recycled latex paint retailer based in Hanover, Massachusetts.

¹⁸ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Strategic Environmental Management, Sector-Based Information and Resources: Paint and Coatings. From https://archive.epa.gov/sectors/web/html/paint.html, accessed May 23, 2025.

¹⁹ Product Stewardship Institute, "Final paint technical report," March 2004: p. 6. From https://productstewardship.us/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/PaintTechnicalReportFinal3-21-04.pdf, accessed May 27, 2025.

Of all household hazardous waste, paint is the single most voluminous and expensive material collected and managed by municipalities.²⁰

Currently, in Massachusetts, responsibility for the collection and appropriate disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW) falls predominately on municipalities. Most leftover paint that is recovered is collected by municipalities during an annual, one-day HHW event, which are an inconvenient and expensive method to divert paint away from household trash bins and drains. This collection method costs taxpayers approximately \$2 million annually just on paint.²¹ This figure could increase to approximately \$16 million annually if all 1.8 million gallons of leftover paint generated each year were collected and recycled or properly managed.²² Only 23% of Massachusetts residents have access to year-round paint collection (see Table 2).²³ A third of Massachusetts residents have no access to municipal HHW collection services.²⁴

Table 2. — Percentage of Massachusetts communities and residents with leftover paint collection access

| Collection frequency | % of communities | % of population |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Year-round | 26% | 23% |
| Weekly/monthly | 2% | 2% |
| 6-11 months of the year | 5% | 7% |
| < 6 months of the year | 16% | 25% |
| 0 | 32% | 32% |
| No data | 18% | 11% |

²⁰ U.S. EPA.

²¹ PaintCare Connecticut and Vermont 2024 Annual Reports.

²² Ibid.

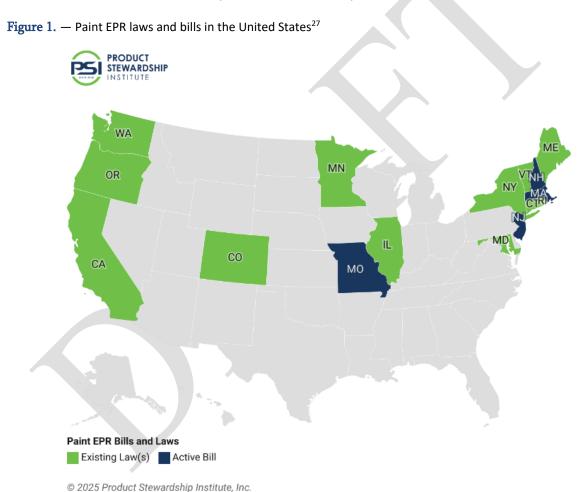
²³ MassDEP 2024 Recycling Survey.

²⁴ Ibid.

Proposed Solution

Paint is highly recyclable. Leftover oil-based paint can be used as industrial fuel.²⁵ Approximately 70% of collected latex paint is reused or recycled back into paint or non-paint products.²⁶

Extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs for paint have been operating successfully in 12 states and the District of Columbia, starting with Oregon in 2010 and followed by California, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Minnesota, Vermont, Maine, Colorado, D.C., Washington, New York, Illinois, and Maryland (see Figure 1). Four state legislatures have introduced paint EPR legislation in 2025, including Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, and New Jersey.



This map shows EPR laws and bills that create a new program. Bills amending existing EPR programs are not represented.

Created with Datawrapper

²⁵ Coatings World. EPR achievements: the case of paint in the U.S. November 2019: p. 42. From https://productstewardship.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/EPR-Achievements-The-Case-of-Paint-in-the-U.S.-Published.pdf, accessed May 23, 2025.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Map courtesy of Product Stewardship Institute, Inc.

PaintCare, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established by the American Coatings Association, is the leading provider of paint stewardship in the U.S. PaintCare collects and recycles unwanted and leftover paint, preventing it from being discarded.²⁸ PaintCare also provides consumers with information and resources on how much paint to buy, how to store paint longer, and ideas on how to use leftover paint. To date, PaintCare programs nationwide have collected nearly 80 million gallons of unwanted paint with a recycling rate of more than 80%.²⁹

Results of PaintCare program in other states

Table 3 highlights a summary of PaintCare program results where active across the U.S. In all, 95% of residents are within 15 miles of a convenient paint drop-off-location and an estimated 83% of all latex paint collected among state program participants is reused or recycled.

Table 3. — Summary of PaintCare program results through 2024³⁰

| | CA | CO | CT | DC | ME | MN | NY | OR | RI | VT | WA | Total |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| State characteristics | | | | | | | | 7 | | | | |
| Population (millions) | 39.5 | 5.96 | 3.68 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 5.8 | 19.9 | 4.3 | 1.1 | 0.6 | 7.9 | 90.8 |
| Urbanization rate | 95% | 86% | 86% | 100% | 39% | 72% | 87% | 81% | 91% | 35% | 83% | |
| Year-round drop-off site | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Retail store | 667 | 180 | 102 | 8 | 82 | 208 | 301 | 142 | 23 | 72 | 212 | 1,997 |
| HHW and other | 208 | 42 | 58 | 0 | 47 | 61 | 33 | 52 | 4 | 11 | 67 | 583 |
| Totals | 875 | 212 | 160 | 8 | 129 | 269 | 334 | 194 | 27 | 82 | 279 | 2,569 |
| Convenience | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| % residence within 15 miles of drop- off site | 99.4% | 97.5% | 100% | 100% | 95.5% | 98.3% | 99.2% | 98.3% | 100% | 99.8% | 97.9% | |
| Paint processing | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Annual gallons processed per 1,000 people* | 84 | 134 | 103 | 37 | 87 | 157 | 36 | 215 | 61 | 133 | 121 | 91 |
| % latex reused or recycled | 87% | 91% | 82% | 82% | 82% | 60% | 83% | 73% | 82% | 75% | 87% | 83% |

Figure 2 illustrates how latex paint was processed in 2023 by state, which showcases that the vast majority of leftover latex paint was recycled into new paint.³¹ Figure 3 shows the progression of diverted

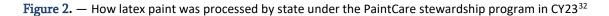
²⁹ PaintCare.com, Our Story. From <a href="https://www.paintcare.org/our-story/#:~:text=To%20date%20PaintCare%20has%E2%80%A6%20*%20Collected%20an,pickups.%20*%20Hosted%20381%20paint%20drop%2Doff%20events, accessed May 23, 2025.

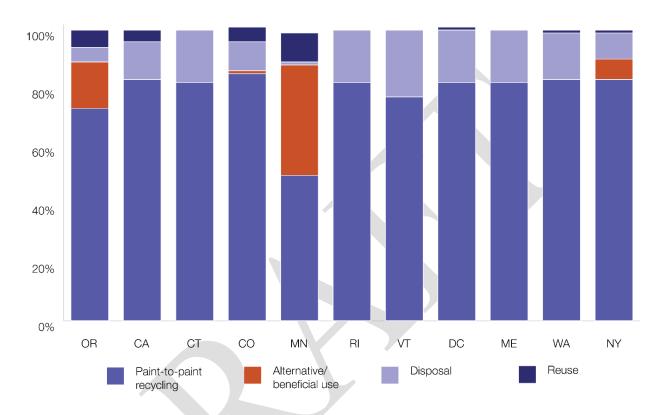
²⁸ See details at https://www.paintcare.org/.

³⁰ Based on PaintCare annual reports for Washington (2024), Oregon (2024), California (2024), Colorado (2024), Minnesota (2024), District of Columbia (2024), New York (2023), Connecticut (2024), Rhode Island (2024), Vermont (2024), and Maine (2024), available at PaintCare.com.

³¹ Minnesota standards for recycling paint are more stringent than in other states, and thus a significant portion of leftover paint is applied toward "alternative/beneficial use," which in this case is for landfill cover. Some emerging technologies allow for paint as an additive for concrete and other consumer products.

latex paint in enacting states using the PaintCare stewardship program from 2011 through 2023. With ten states and the District of Columbia participating in 2023, nearly 8 million gallons of leftover paint were diverted from landfills.





³² Data from PaintCare.

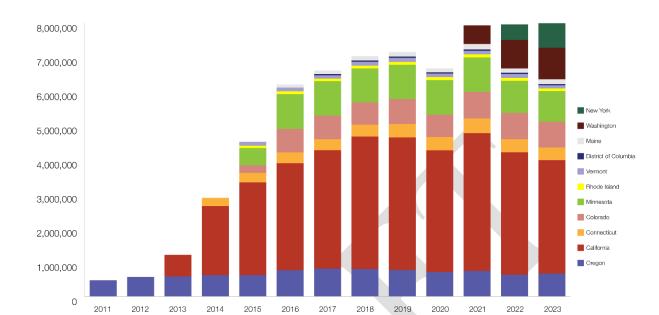


Figure 3. — Gallons of diverted latex paint in states with the PaintCare stewardship program, 2011–2023³³

Roles and responsibilities of a paint stewardship program in Massachusetts

If established, a state-approved paint stewardship program should consist of the roles and responsibilities detailed in Table 4, below. Figure 4 illustrates an example diagram of the paint stewardship program process.

Table 4. — Roles and responsibilities of paint stewardship program

Roles and responsibilities **Party** State-approved paint Develop and submit a detailed program plan to the Massachusetts Department of stewardship program Environmental Protection for approval, which requires drop-off convenience based provider (e.g., PaintCare) on distance and population (e.g., 95% of residents must be within 15 miles of a drop-off site, and one additional site must be added per 30,000 residents); 2. Secure and contract with collection sites (e.g., retailers, household hazardous waste facilities, etc.) while ensuring equitable access in urban, suburban, and rural areas Provide supplies, training, educational materials, and logistical support for registration and reporting to retailers and collection sites Secure and contract transporters and recyclers and processors, prioritizing reuse and recycling over landfill or incineration Conduct public education and outreach to paint consumers 5. 6. Manage finances, using revenue exclusively for nonprofit program operations Determine a fee schedule for point-of-sale transactions 7. Monitor producer compliance and reporting Report annually to MassDEP on program activities and results 10. Ensure transparency and accountability through third-party financial audits and evaluations

³³ Data from PaintCare.

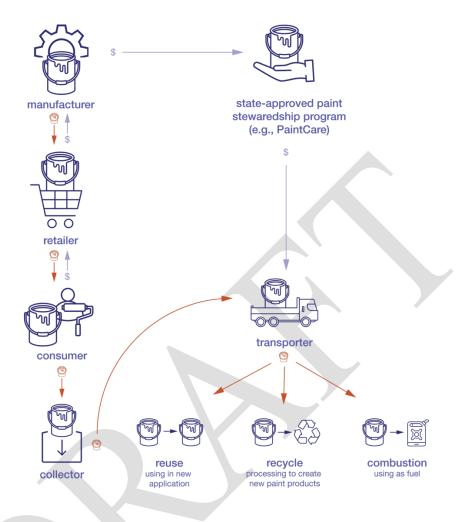
| Massachusetts Department | 1. | Ensure compliance with stewardship law |
|---------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| of Environmental | 2. | Maintain information about paint stewardship program |
| Protection | 3. | Review and approve program plan, including financial reports and fee structure |
| | 4. | Review and approve annual reports, including financial reports |
| Manufacturers (producers) | 1. | Register with a state-approved paint stewardship program (e.g., PaintCare) |
| | 2. | Charge a fee on all wholesale paint sold via retailers and direct-to-consumer outlets (e.g., online) |
| Retailers | 1. | Pay paint stewardship fee to manufacturer when buying paint wholesale |
| | 2. | Pass fees onto consumers (optional) |
| | 3. | Register with state-approved paint stewardship program |
| | 4. | Report on all brands of paint sold (they may not sell paint from non-participating brands) |
| | 5. | Educate consumers about program and fee |
| | 6. | Volunteer their store as a drop-off site (optional) |
| Consumers | 1. | Pay paint stewardship fee depending on container size at point of sale (fees vary |
| | | from state to state and can be amended over time; see Table 5) |
| | 2. | Bring leftover paint to a collection site for proper management, whether paint was |
| | | purchased before or after law is enacted |
| Municipalities | 1. | Participate as collection sites via a contract with the state-approved paint stewardship program (optional) |

 $\textbf{Table 5.} - \textbf{PaintCare fees in Northeast states}^{\textbf{34}}$

| State | < half pint | > half pint < 1 gallon | 1–2 gallons | > 2 gallons ≤ 5 gallons |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Connecticut | \$0.00 | \$0.35 | \$0.75 | \$1.60 |
| New York | \$0.00 | \$0.45 | \$0.95 | \$1.60 |
| Maine | \$0.00 | \$0.35 | \$0.75 | \$1.60 |
| Rhode Island | \$0.00 | \$0.35 | \$0.75 | \$1.60 |
| Vermont | \$0.00 | \$0.65 | \$1.35 | \$2.45 |

³⁴ Data from Product Stewardship Institute.

Figure 4. — Paint stewardship program journey and fee pathway under EPR



Variations and elements of paint stewardship across states

Table 6 identifies key policy elements and considerations for Massachusetts.

Table 6. — Paint stewardship program policy elements and considerations

| Element | Paint program policy model | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Covered materials | Interior/exterior architectural paint Optional phase-in: Aerosols Non-industrial specialty paints (e.g., furniture, craft, marine) Paint products (e.g., paint thinners) | | | | |
| Covered entities | Consumers of architectural paint (e.g., residents, contractors, small businesses) | | | | |
| Collection convenience | Maintain and expand existing infrastructure Convenient, free, ongoing collection | | | | |
| Producer/responsible party | Tiered definition: Brand owner or licensee or First importer into state, a retailer in some cases | | | | |

| Governance | Producer responsibility organization (PRO) runs program |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Massachusetts DEP provides oversight and enforcement |
| Funding | Consumer fee at point of sale |
| Funding allocation | • Collection |
| | Transportation |
| | Processing |
| | Government administration |
| | Education and outreach |
| Performance standards (waste | Reduce |
| management hierarchy) | • Reuse |
| | Paint-to-paint recycle |
| | Recycle into another product (e.g., paving stones or concrete) |
| | Incineration with energy recovery and alternative daily cover |
| | Compliant disposal |
| Outreach and education | Must include outreach and education program |
| | Must include method for evaluating such efforts (e.g., consumer awareness study) |
| | Must address consumers, painting contractors, and paint retailers |
| Enforcement | Noncompliant producers may not sell or distribute paint in the state |
| | State may impose civil penalties |
| | No consumer fees may be used to pay penalties or for lobbying |
| Program plan | Must be updated and resubmitted every five years |
| | Must be approved by oversight agency |
| | Must include details about the program as required by statute |
| Annual report | Must contain where and how paint was collected and processed |
| | Must contain program budget |
| | Must contain evaluation of progress toward outreach and education goals and |
| | performance targets |
| | Must contain results of an independent audit |
| | Must be published online |
| Implementation timeline | Agency has 120 days to review and approve plan |
| Additional | Producers are provided antitrust provisions |

Costs and Benefits

A state-approved paint stewardship program would require administrative oversight from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's Solid Waste Division. The costs for this administration would be paid for by the paint stewardship organization.

In addition to diverting upwards of 1 million gallons of latex and oil-based paint from Massachusetts disposal facilities, benefits include approximately \$2 million in annual savings for taxpayers by reducing municipal collection and disposal of paint-related household hazardous waste. The savings would be closer to \$16 million if the estimated annual quantity of 1.8 million gallons of leftover paint is collected and recycled or properly managed through a state-approved paint stewardship program.

A paint stewardship program would significantly increase collection convenience for residents and businesses by requiring the establishment of paint drop-off locations within 15 miles of all parties. These drop-off locations would be available year-round with expanded acceptance hours, exponentially increasing the current year-round residential access of only 23% in Massachusetts.

Additionally, the enactment of a paint stewardship program in Massachusetts would divert approximately 420,000 gallons of unused paint from landfills, as well as 500 tons of paint containers (see Table 1).

Additional benefits of paint EPR include:

- Removal of hazardous waste in residents' basements that pose a significant threat during flood events
- Additional foot traffic at voluntary retail paint drop-off sites
- Economic benefits of more than \$7 million in job creation and other spending³⁵
- An estimated additional \$1.5 million in economic benefits to the state spent on outreach, education, supplies, and program administration
- A total of approximately 40 to 65 new full-time jobs based in Massachusetts
- Programmatic efficiencies resulting from regional cost-sharing and increased program participation
- Increased support for the expansion of a Massachusetts-based women-owned paint recycling business, RECOLOR®, and potentially other small businesses resulting from the recycled paint industry

³⁵ Assumes paint collection doubles from current municipal solid waste characterization to approximately 785,000 gallons at an average of \$8.90 per gallon to transport and process based on costs in Connecticut and Vermont.

Public Support

Paint stewardship has strong support in Massachusetts, including from paint manufacturers, paint retailers, the Massachusetts Municipal Association, the Massachusetts Product Stewardship Council, and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

See Appendix A for a flyer produced by the Massachusetts Product Stewardship Council that includes a comprehensive list of supporters for a paint stewardship law in Massachusetts.



EPR Commission Recommendation

Table 6 shows a detailed breakdown of how the EPR Commission voted on the following resolution:

The Commission recommends the Massachusetts legislature enact legislation by July 2026 establishing an extended producer responsibility program for paint. The Commission recommends the development and implementation of a program (e.g., PaintCare) that aligns with programs already in place in other Northeast states (Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, Vermont, and New York), to provide consistency across the region.

Table 6. —Extended Producer Responsibility Commission vote on enacting paint stewardship legislation³⁶

| Commissioner | Title, Organization | Vote |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| John Beling, Chair | Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection | TBD |
| Rep. Christine Barber | Appointee for Rep. Michael Day, Massachusetts House of Representatives | TBD |
| Senator Mike Barrett | Chair, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Energy, and Utilities | |
| Sharon Byrne Kishida | Nominee, Senate Minority Leader | |
| Leigh-Anne Cole | Executive Director, Community Action Works | |
| Jose Delgado | Arise for Social Justice | |
| Janet Domenitz | Executive Director, MassPIRG | |
| Lew Dubuque | Vice President, Northeast Chapter, National Waste and Recycling Association | |
| Magda Garncarz | Vice President of Government Affairs, Associated Industries of Massachusetts | |
| Sarah Kalish | Executive Office of Economic Development | |
| Dalene LaPointe | Assistant Director, Environmental Toxicology Program at Massachusetts Department of Public Health | |
| David Melly | Legislative Director, Environmental League of Massachusetts | |
| Conor O'Shaughnessy | Budget Director and Environmental Policy Analyst, Office of Senator Bruce Tarr | |
| Andrew Potter | Chair, Select Board, Town of West Stockbridge | |
| Catherine Ratte | Director, Land Use and Environment Department, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission | |
| Bill Rennie | Senior Vice President, Retailers Association of Massachusetts | |
| Neil Rhein | Executive Director, Keep Massachusetts Beautiful | |
| Waneta Trabert | Vice President, MassRecycle | |
| Tracy Triplett | Senior Enforcement Counsel, Office of Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell | |
| Abbie Webb | Vice President of Sustainability, Casella Waste Management | |

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³⁶ From a vote taken at a June 18, 2025, EPR Commission meeting.

APPENDIX A



By passing a paint stewardship law, Massachusetts will:

SAVE MUNICIPALITIES MONEY, SUPPORT LOCAL RECYCLERS, & PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

A paint stewardship law will make it easy for all Massachusetts residents to properly manage both oil-based and latex paint. Recycling paint through the PaintCare program, which the language from H.886/S.647 would establish, will lower disposal costs for taxpayers, keep our waterways clean, and reduce the amount of hazardous waste going to landfills and incinerators.

A PAINT STEWARDSHIP LAW WILL:



Save local governments around \$3 million annually across the Commonwealth.



Make paint recycling easy and free for all MA residents, including those living in rural areas.



Prevent mismanagement of unwanted paint that pollutes waterways and the environment.

HOW A PAINT STEWARDSHIP SYSTEM WORKS

A point-of-sale fee of less than \$1.25 per gallon is collected by all paint retailers. The collected funds are managed by a non-profit producer responsibility organization, which represents paint manufacturers. Funds are used to establish paint collection sites, transport paint for processing, and distribute public education materials on proper management of paint.

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP IS A PROVEN SOLUTION

Twelve states & Washington, D.C. have implemented paint stewardship laws, including the neighboring states of NY, RI, CT, VT, and ME. According to the Product Stewardship Institute, a Boston-based non-profit, paint stewardship programs have saved governments and taxpayers nearly \$300 million, and established more than 2,000 collection sites, over 70% of which are at voluntary retail locations.

SEE REVERSE FOR A LIST OF SUPPORTING MUNICIPALITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN MASSACHUSETTS

Waneta Trabert
MA Product Stewardship Council
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wtrabert@newtonma.gov

Sharon Byrne Kishida MA Product Stewardship Council Former MassDEP MAC sbkishida@gmail.com

For more information on paint stewardship laws visit:
PaintCare.org

Updated May 2025

Content adapted with permission from Eco-Cycle/Recycle Colorado



The following Massachusetts municipalities, businesses, and organizations have signed an endorsement of paint stewardship. Municipalities representing 58% of the state population have voiced their support.

Local Governments City of Boston* Barnstable County* South Shore Recycling Cooperative* (representing 18 municipalities) Minuteman Household Hazardous Products Committee* (representing 9 municipalities) City of Worcester* City of Springfield* City of Cambridge* City of New Bedford City of Lynn* City of Lawrence* City of Newton* City of Somerville City of Malden* City of Brookline* City of Revere* City of Chicopee* City of Peabody* City of Methuen* City of Everett* City of Salem* Town of Barnstable* City of Pittsfield* Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (representing 21 municipalities) City of Leominster Town of Arlington* City of Beverly City of Fitchburg City of Woburn City of Westfield*

City of Holyoke*

Town of Braintree

Town of Falmouth

Town of Saugus*

City of Gloucester*

Town of Danvers*

Town of Yarmouth*

Town of Acton*

Town of Ludlow*

City of Northampton*

Town of Middleborough

Northern Berkshire Solid Waste

(representing 13 municipalities)

Management District*

Local Governments Town of Bourne*

Town of Marblehead* Town of Somerset* City of Greenfield* City of Newburyport* Town of Grafton* Town of Webster* Town of East Longmeadow* Town of Longmeadow* Town of Belchertown* Town of Abington Town of Auburn* City of Easthampton* Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative * (representing 10 municipalities) Town of Swampscott Town of Wilbraham* Ipswich Waste Reduction Advisory Committee Town of Kingston Town of Holbrook* City of North Adams* Town of Tyngsborough* Town of Littleton* Town of Adams* Town of Lancaster* Town of Montague* Town of Boxford Town of Monson* Town of Rockport* Town of West Boylston* Town of Great Barrington* Town of Stow³ Town of Harvard* Town of Orleans* Town of Granby* Town of Dalton* Town of Chatham* Town of Williamstown* Town of Lee* Town of Wenham* Town of Lenox* Town of Deerfield* Town of Sherborn Town of Manchester-bythe-Sea* Town of Sheffield*

Local Governments

Town of Sunderland* Town of Ashby Town of Northfield* Town of Lanesborough* Town of Worthington* Town of Brewster* Town of Stockbridge* Town of Shutesbury Town of Erving* Town of Conway* Town of Ashfield* Town of Becket* Town of Clarksburg* Town of Whately* Town of Williamsburg* Town of West Stockbridge* Town of Otis* Town of Gill* Town of Chesterfield Town of Hinsdale* Town of Egremont* Town of Windsor* Town of Colrain* Town of Savoy* Town of Chesterfield* Town of Cummington* Town of Peru* Town of Florida* Town of Plainfield* Town of Hawley*

Businesses

Aubuchon Hardware
Brewster Ace hardware*
Black Earth Compost
Clean-Seas, Inc.
Home Decor Group*
Hamshaw Lumber, Inc*
Recolor Paints
Allonnia
Helpsy
Manchester Marine
NEC Solar
Pinto Recycling, Inc

Non-Government Organizations

Massachusetts Municipal Association* Environmental League of Massachusetts* American Coatings Association Product Stewardship Institute, Inc National Stewardship Action Council League of Women Voters of Massachusetts Keep Massachusetts Beautiful Connecticut River Conservancy Seaside Sustainability Green Newton Cape Cod Anti-Litter Coalition Cape Cod's Faith Communities Environmental Network **Energy and Climate Committees** of the Cape and Islands 350 Mass Berkshires Cape Ann Climate Coalition Town Green Salem Sound Coastwatch Elders Climate Action -Massachusetts* Keep Salem Beautiful Zero Waste Arlington Green Beverly* Beverly Waste Reduction Committee Greening Greenfield* Zero Waste Melrose Sustainable Belmont North Reading Green Alliance Bourne Recycling Committee Green Maynard Lee Greener Gateway Committee Saugus River Watershed Council* Saugus Action Volunteers for the Environment Sheffield Saves Shutesbury Recycling and Solid Waste Committee Sustainability Committee of

Tyngsboro, MA

Zero Waste Amherst

Wachusett Earthday Inc

First Parish Church of Stow and

Acton Climate Task Force

Town of Provincetown*

^{*}Have passed a resolution or submitted an official support letter for paint stewardship