



Controlled waste fact sheet

Paintback and the transport of liquid waste paint

What is Paintback?

Paintback is a national liquid waste paint collection scheme. Painters are able to dispose of up to 100 litres of liquid waste paint at participating collection points free of charge. Visit www.paintback.com.au for more information.

Waste paints Included in the paintback scheme

Decorative and architectural paints from trade and domestic sources and their containers are included in the scheme, such as:

- water and solvent-based interior and exterior paint
- deck coatings and floor paints
- primers, undercoats and sealers
- stains and shellacs
- varnishes and urethanes (single component)
- wood coatings (containing no pesticides).

Paintback does not include:

- spray packs (aerosols)
- bagged render
- texture coatings
- isocyanates
- paint strippers
- industrial coatings
- anti-fouling paints.



When is waste paint a controlled waste?

Under the Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations), liquid waste paint generated as a result of commercial activity is a controlled waste.

Do I need a controlled waste carrier licence to transport liquid waste paint?

A painter transporting liquid waste paint must hold a carrier licence if the waste paint is being transported as part of commercial activity.

Exemption for the paintback scheme

Painters participating in Paintback are exempt from the licensing requirements of the Regulations if:

- no more than 100 litres of paint in containers of no more than 20 litres is transported at any one time
- only decorative and architectural paints are being transported
- paint is only disposed of at a participating Paintback collection point.



Activities not exempt

A painter transporting liquid waste paint must hold a controlled waste carrier licence unless they meet the conditions listed above. The following activities require a controlled waste carrier licence:

- transport of liquid waste paint in volumes greater than 100 litres
- transport of liquid waste paint that is not classed as decorative or architectural paint
- the disposal of liquid waste paint at waste disposal facilities other than Paintback collection sites.



For more information on the licensing of carriers, drivers and vehicles involved in transporting controlled waste on roads in Western Australia, please refer to the [Controlled Waste Fact Sheets](#).

Is waste paint from householders a controlled waste?

Householders disposing of liquid waste paint generated as a result of their own domestic activities are not subject to the Regulations.

Is liquid waste paint a controlled waste if it is recycled?

Liquid waste paint is a controlled waste regardless of whether it is being

disposed of, recycled, reused or undergoing another treatment process.

Where can I dispose of liquid waste paint under the paintback scheme?

A list of collection points for waste paint can be found at www.paintback.com.au.





More information

For advice on compliance with the Regulations or any other controlled waste matter, please contact the department on 08 6364 7000, or email controlled.waste@dwer.wa.gov.au.

This document is available in alternative formats and other languages on request.

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Related documents

Additional [publications about controlled waste](#) and related [controlled waste fact sheets](#) are available on the department website, or by contacting the department on 08 6364 7000.

Legislation

This document is provided for guidance only. It should not be relied upon to address every aspect of the relevant legislation.

Please refer to the Regulations and the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* available from the Parliamentary Counsel's Office. Free electronic copies are available from the [Parliamentary Counsel's Office website](#).

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Legal advice

The information provided to you by the department in relation to this matter does not constitute legal advice. Due to the range of legal issues potentially involved in this matter, the department recommends that you obtain independent legal advice.