

Oregon Paint Stewardship Program

Annual Stakeholder Meeting

June 15, 2021



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Attendees

- Blake Bennett, DEQ
- Cheryl Grabham, DEQ
- Abby Boudouris, DEQ
- Cami Picollo, DEQ
- Jeremy Jones, PaintCare
- Lauren Scher, PaintCare
- Stephanie Fernandes, CalRecycle
- Joyce Thung, CalRecycle
- Wendee Cook, Clean Earth
- Leonard Fialdini, Clean Earth
- Heidi McAuliffe, American Coatings Association
- Megan Warfield, Washington State Dept. of Ecology
- Brenden Adamczyk, Product Stewardship Institute
- Megan Mansfield Pryor, Maine DEP
- Garth Hickle

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DEQ is a leader in restoring, maintaining and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land and water.

Time	Topic
9:30 a.m.	Welcome
9:40 a.m.	PaintCare Presentation of 2020 Annual Report and COVID-19 Impacts
10:10 a.m.	DEQ Presentation of 2020 Wasteshed Volumes
10:20 a.m.	Comments and Questions
10:30 a.m.	Updates: Program Plan
11:00 a.m.	Adjourn meeting

Welcome

Cheryl Grabham opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and asked the attendees to introduce themselves and their organizations. Blake Bennett reminded everyone of meeting protocols and that the meeting was being recorded.

PaintCare Presentation by Jeremy Jones

2020 Collection Results

- 706,270 gallons collected - 78% was latex, 22% was oil-based
- Paint collected in 2020 decreased 8% compared to 2019
- 80% of latex collected was recycled back into paint
- 177 year-round drop off sites and 96.7% of people live within 15 miles of a drop-off site

- COVID-19 and wildfires caused many collection events to be delayed; some were cancelled, especially municipal events hosted by Metro
- Increase in the number of large volume pick-ups (100 gal or more)

New collection sites were added in Brookings, Grants Pass, Hermiston, Klamath Falls, Portland and Salem

Program Finances

- Collection, transportation, and processing increased slightly to 89% of costs
- Communication and administrative costs decreased slightly due to less activity because of the pandemic
- Revenues increased unexpectedly due to a large shift toward home improvement purchases during the pandemic

COVID-19 Impacts

COVID-19 impacted every aspect of program operations and most operations have resumed compared to this time last.

PaintCare hosted collection events were postponed in underserved areas until the second half of 2020. Collaboration with local governments was key to identifying and servicing those areas. Once events resumed, they included enhanced safety protocols.

A collection event in Blachly was the first one conducted by PaintCare following COVID-19 closures. Lauren Scher, who coordinated the event, commented that it was a learning experience that helped them develop processes for smoother events held later in the year. Pre-registration was something they started as part of the process. Jeremy mentioned they expect to continue utilizing pre-registration for all future events.

Closure of many retail collection sites from March through June of the pandemic was a large contributor to the decline in paint collection volumes for 2020. The highest closure percentage was about half of the retail collection sites.

Collections in 2021 are higher than this time last year and the expectation is that collections will return to pre-pandemic amounts.

Comments and Questions

Q: Did PaintCare assess any impact to the program from shifting outreach material during the pandemic to emphasize use-in-place and proper storage?

A: There isn't a really a way to measure long term impacts of that outreach

Program Plan 2021

- Plan submitted on June 11, 2021 to DEQ
- Several aspects of the plan were updated to align with the recently approved plan in Washington
- Includes a new look, marketing plan, and updated language

DEQ Presentation of 2020 Wasteshed Volumes by Blake Bennett

Summary of Collections

Over 6.8 million gallons collected since the program began 11 years ago.
Latex recycling is up 16% in 2020 compared to 2019.

Highlights from the Wasteshed Report:

- Metro region continues to account for over 50% of annual collections; Metro region total volume collected declined by 10% while the rest of the state declined only 5%
- 13 of 35 wastesheds showed increased volumes
- Gilliam and Polk wastesheds reported no collections
- Gilliam and Milton-Freewater have no permanent collection sites
- Per capita collection for the state was 0.17 gallons; Metro region per capita collections was 0.20 gallons

Program Plan Update

Blake Bennett mentioned PaintCare's 2021-2025 program plan was received on June 11, 2021. DEQ has 60 days to review and the plan is open for public input through July 16, 2021. The intention in the updated program plan was for anyone reading the plan to understand where they fit in the program and what one could expect from DEQ and PaintCare in overseeing paint collection and management.

Cheryl Grabham acknowledged all the work that Jeremy Jones and Blake Bennett had done to develop the updated program plan and commented that she is very interested in receiving public input. She also appreciated the new look and branding refresh.

Comments and Questions

Q: How does DEQ define wastesheds?

A: It is predominantly divided up by counties though there are special instances such as Milton-Freewater and Metro. The wastesheds are determined by the counties and not DEQ.

Q: Could PaintCare describe more about why latex paint recycling increased?

A: PaintCare had been working with Metro, which is the primary processor for the program, for a few years to assess options for improving rates. Metro had worked developing ways to handle paint such as sending some to Visions, which turns paint into other products. In 2020, PaintCare and Metro utilized GDB, which specializes in paint-to-paint as a back-up processor and recycler. GDB's expertise in marketing and access to a larger markets increases their ability to achieve paint-to-paint recycling relative to Metro

C: Blake Bennett thanked Jeremy Jones and Lauren Scher for their efforts during COVID-19. Jeremy thanked Lauren for her efforts; Lauren expressed how nice it was to be back in the field visiting retailers.

With no additional comments or questions Blake Bennett adjourned the meeting at 10:40 am

Alternative formats

DEQ can provide documents in an alternate format or in a language other than English upon request. Call DEQ at 800-452-4011 or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.