

Background: As part of the San Joaquin County Paint Stewardship Grant funded by the California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), CPSC facilitated five conference calls between six rural counties and Paint Care to increase understanding by both parties about the current paint collection system and how the new stewardship system would work with the existing infrastructure. These are the notes from the five conference calls that occurred in March of 2011.

March 17, 2011

1. Imperial County – 8:30 am

Attendees:

Bob Douthitt, Manager, Imperial Valley Resource Management Agency
Alison Keane, Executive Director, Paint Care
Mark Kurshner, President, Product Care Association
Larry Sweetser, ESJPA Consultant
Mary Pitto, Regulatory Affairs Advocate, Regional Council of Rural Counties
Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director, California Product Stewardship Council
Julia Au, Communications & Technical Assistance Manager, California Product Stewardship Council

- County has three HHW facilities in Calexico, El Centro, Brawley
 - They hold two events a year (one each in the Spring and Fall)
- Collect about (40) fifty-five gallon drums of paint annually. About 15 gallons are alkyd.
- All latex and alkyd paint goes to Amazon bulked in drums
- Eco Solutions runs their facilities. Imperial County has a year to year contract with Eco Solutions
- Paint program cost about \$12,000 last year, with it split almost 50/50 on disposal and transportation costs

2. Modoc County – 9:00 am

Attendees:

Rick Hironymous, Public Works Director, Modoc County
Donna Boland, Modoc County
Alison Keane, Executive Director, Paint Care
Mark Kurshner, President, Product Care Association
Larry Sweetser, ESJPA Consultant
Mary Pitto, Regulatory Affairs Advocate, Regional Council of Rural Counties
Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director, California Product Stewardship Council
Julia Au, Communications & Technical Assistance Manager, California Product Stewardship Council

- County statistics: Population under 10,000 with one incorporated city (Alturas) in 4,000 square miles
- County has four permanent ABOP sites in Newell, Lake City, Alturas, Lookout
- Collect about 150 gallons of paint annually, which is loose packed and picked up by contractor
- Evergreen is their contractor for HHW
- Problem in Modoc is that paint is frozen for a year before its brought to the county
- Waste Management Inc operates their sites
- In Alturas, there are True Value and Ace Hardware stores, but many residents go to Klamath Falls, Oregon (about 95 miles north) to purchase their paint.

March 18, 2011

3. Tehama County – 9:30 am

Kristina Miller, Landfill Agency Manager, Tehama County/Red Bluff Landfill Management Agency
Alison Keane, Executive Director, Paint Care
Larry Sweetser, ESJPA Consultant
Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director, California Product Stewardship Council
Julia Au, Communications & Technical Assistance Manager, California Product Stewardship Council

- County statistics: rural agricultural county north of Sacramento. Biggest city is Red Bluff (population about 12,000). Other cities range from Red Bluff (about 9,000) and Tehama (250)
 - Large percentage of the population live under the poverty line, including 25% of children
- Tehama County has three retail sites collecting latex paint from the public that were set up through the San Joaquin Paint Grant. All three locations have their paint picked up and serviced by Visions Paint Recycling
 - Los Molinos Hardware (Los Molinos), McCoy Hardware (Corning), Paint Mart (Red Bluff)
- There are two permanent HHW facilities
 - Red Bluff HHWF (also where landfill is) open two Saturdays per month
 - This location also has a very active exchange/reuse program. Residents drop-off and pick up paint at a reuse pallet. Most of the groups that pick them up are the 4H, Boy Scouts groups. About 70% of the paint is picked up through this program.
 - Corning HHWF open one Saturday per month
 - The permanent faculties are run by Eco Solutions. They hire HHW technicians to do the bulking. Eco Solutions contracts with PSC to have the paint bulked and shipped.
 - Alkyd paint is shipped to become boiler fuel

- Tehama County says they haven't really experienced a decrease of paint collected at its Red Bluff location, but maybe a small decrease in paint at its Corning location because of the infrequency of the site being open and having a retail site in the city as well.
- Overall, the County has seen an increase in paint collected now with the retail sites
- The County says it will be able to carve out paint as a cost from other HHW collected.
- Estimate about 20% of paint collected cannot be recycled
- PaintCare suggested that Tehama will be compensated 25cents a gallon for paint swapped

4. Del Norte and Humboldt Counties – 11:00 am

Kevin Hendrick, Executive Director, Del Norte Solid Waste Management Authority

Tedd Ward, Program Manager, Del Norte Solid Waste Management Authority

Wes White, Hambro Waste Solutions Group (WSG)

Brent Whitener, Humboldt Waste Management Authority (HWMA)

Alison Keane, Executive Director, Paint Care

Mark Kurshner, President, Product Care Association

Larry Sweetser, ESJPA Consultant

Del Norte County

- County statistics: Population of around 29,000 including 7,000 prisoners at Pelican Bay prison. Crescent City is the County's only incorporated city.
- Hambro WSG operates the Del Norte solid waste site (includes transfer station) located in Crescent City.
 - Holds annual HHW pick up event at permanent HHW facility.
 - Works with Clean Harbors for this event and takes any related HHW a week before the event.
 - Some bulking at these events, but most is loose packed
 - No charge to take paint
 - Transfer station is open seven days a week, except major holidays.
- They collect non-aerosol paint with large amount of usable paint consolidated or directly sent to reuse shed.
- There is no paint crusher
- Paint that cannot be reused, it is dried and disposed of through regular solid waste.
- They also collect empty aerosol cans for steel recycling.
- Del Norte expressed interest in helping Paint Care work with retailers to help set up at least a few retail take back locations for paint in the County.

Humboldt County

- County statistics: Population 130,000, with about 50,000 households.

- HHW facility is located in Eureka at HWMA transfer station.
 - HHW facility is open first Saturday a month for residential drop off.
 - During the week they have appointments for CESQGs (average is about 10 per week).
 - Note that the City of Fortuna opted out of the HWMA and residents must pay a fee to participate in their program.
- County also holds 6-8 mobile events in the summer to member cities outside 15 mile radius of the HHW facility, including with Native American tribes.
- PSC is their contractor. Collected paint is sent to their Rancho Cordova facility.
 - For the mobile events if there are more than 250 appointments, PSC is used. If less, the collection is done by in house staff.
- Can fill 20 55-gallon drums a month, loose packed.
- HHW facility does bulking on site and has a can crusher.
- Latex paint is sent to Visions Paint Recycling (previously used Amazon) and alkyd is sent for fuel blending.
- Facility does have a reuse shed called “the red shed”
 - 10-15% of collected paint from events is used for their exchange/reuse shed.
 - Majority of people getting the paint from the shed are property managers and rental owners.
 - They can leave out 200 gallons of paint that can be gone in 2-3 days.
- Had one event with Mendocino County previously (for southern region of County), but feel their jurisdiction receives enough paint to not have to partner with them.

March 30, 2011

5. Tuolumne County – 9:00 am

Belinda Barlow, Solid Waste Specialist, Tuolumne County

Alison Keane, Executive Director, Paint Care

Larry Sweetser, ESJPA Consultant

Mary Pitto, Regulatory Affairs Advocate, Regional Council of Rural Counties

Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director, California Product Stewardship Council

Julia Au, Communications & Technical Assistance Manager, California Product Stewardship Council

- County statistics: located in the eastern part of the State with a population of 57,000 in about 2,300 square miles; main population radius is within 15-20 miles of Sonora (only incorporated City); Groveland has a population of about 4,000.
- County has two transfer stations that currently take back and accept latex paint from residents and businesses – run like an ABOP.

- Sonora – this transfer station is more centrally located and gets the bulk of the paint collected in the County. All paint here is bulked to save on space, but would be willing to stop bulking if enough space is available.
- Groveland – located 25 miles north of Sonora, this gets significantly less paint and most often, paint is packed and shipped out by contractor.
- There is a limit of 10 gallons at a time for drop-off.
- Transfer stations are operated by Waste Management.
- CESQG waste is accepted with no charge.
- Transfer stations currently have a \$4 gate fee. The fee is exempted only for those with CRTs/covered electronics and County will probably have to exempt the fee once the paint program starts.
- HHW contractor is PSC.
- Used to have six HHW events, but currently only have three a year.
 - Two are in Groveland and one in Sonora.
 - PSC operates all three events.
- Will be opening a new permanent HHW facility this year – current expected opening day is May 11, 2011
 - For accepting oil based paint only.
- The County stopped the reuse program for paint. The County did have enough storage for the paint, couldn't make sure all the paint was usable and couldn't track the paint well enough, so the program ended. Paint was usually given away for free to local governments, non-profits and other cities for graffiti.
- Has a certificate of recycling with contractors so they know the paint collected is being recycled.
- County is open to other locations, such as hardware stores, taking back paint from the public. Currently, the County has locations that take back batteries and fluorescent lamps and can mention the new program to them to see if they would be interested in taking back paint.

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