

NOTICE: The New Haven Transfer Station will be closed on Monday, December 26, and Monday, January 2, 2023



Feature What to Do With Your Unused Paint

As I was wading into the weeds at the Transfer Station, organizing and itemizing the many improperly dumped cans of paint for yet another time-consuming PaintCare pickup, I thought this might be a good time to make the PaintCare solution completely clear to our readership!

Participating PaintCare outlets accept up to 5 gallons per visit. If you have a larger quantity, contact PaintCare directly and fill out a “large quantity pickup” request form online, if qualified.

<https://www.paintcare.org/large-volume-pickups/>

What's accepted:

Latex and Oil-based paint, stains, varnish and polyurethane finish in labeled containers

What's NOT accepted:

Spray paint containers, those without original labels, or containers that are leaking or empty or have no lids/caps. Chemicals/sovents.

Outlets in the New Haven area (call ahead):

Sherwin Williams

454 Whalley Ave
New Haven , CT 06511
(203) 782-4930

PPG Paints

390 East St
New Haven , CT 06511
(203) 562-5173

Grand Paint & Carpet Center

451 Grand Ave
New Haven, CT 06513
(203) 562-5601

Sherwin-Williams
2100 Dixwell Ave
Hamden , CT 06514
(203) 281-4988

Goodys Paint and Hardware
540 Main St
East Haven , CT 06512
(203) 469-5335

Sherwin-Williams
575 Boston Post Rd
Orange , CT 06477
(203) 876-7000

Sherwin-Wiliams
2 Montowese Ave
North Haven, CT 06473
(203) 745-5238

North Haven Paint and Hardware
87 Quinnipiac Ave
North Haven , CT 06473
(203) 776-6256



Make sure your paint cans have tightly-closed lids and that the labels are legible when you bring them to a participating PaintCare retailer

Please remember that paint is NOT accepted at the New Haven Transfer Station – the cans you see there were *illegally dumped!!*



Feature Who woulda' thought?

There are some common misconceptions about what to do with certain items....

Disposable batteries – they no longer contain contaminants in amounts that are considered harmful to the environment, so may be placed in your regular household trash.

Smoke detectors – the amount of radioactive material contained in these consumer units is so small, and the radioactivity is so weak, as to be deemed safe for disposal at home in your trash toter.

Fire extinguishers – the metal ones can be recycled, but first, any remaining chemicals must be expelled safely. Plastic ones must be empty as well, but should go in trash.

Polysterene cups (styrofoam) – go in regular trash.

Black plastic trays and containers – regular trash

Take-out food containers – regular trash

Tissue paper – regular trash

Loose bottle caps – regular trash (bottle caps left on plastic or glass bottles are recyclable in your blue bin)

Plastic bags and wrap – check your local grocery store to see if they participate in a take-back program.

Prescription bottles – drop them off at your local police station (call first)

Shredded paper – though most paper is definitely recyclable, New Haven does not take shredded paper in its recycling. Place in regular trash

Grass clippings – grass clippings are not picked up for recycling, and are not accepted at the New Haven Transfer Station. CT DEEP encourages you to compost 'in place' (i.e. leave them on your lawn after a cut). This is better environmentally, and also for your lawn. They are also a necessary ingredient in any home-composting bin or tumbler.

Food aerosol cans (empty) – can go in your recycling bin!

Liquid waste – may *NOT* be brought to the transfer station! (this includes paint – which can be brought to a PaintCare participating retailer and household hazardous waste which can be deposited at Hazwaste Central (seasonally).

Ceramic mugs and plates – regular trash

Drinking glass – not recyclable at our MRF – wrap and place in regular trash.

Paper-based cartons – recycle in your blue bin

Pizza boxes (no oil in cardboard) – recycle in your blue bin

Plastic packaging (rigid or bubble) – NOT recyclable in your blue bin (even if it says “green” or “recyclable” or “sustainable” on the package!)

and *remember* – do not bag or bundle any recyclable items in your blue bin, or they will be rejected!!

Dep't. Holidays with the 4 R's

Put sustainability and the **Reduce/Re-use/Re-purpose/Recycle** principle to work when it comes to holiday gifts! (Article “recycled” and added to from our December 2021 issue)

Americans throw away 25% more trash during the winter holiday season. Let's see if we can chip away at that number, by:

Reducing:

- >Try hiding presents rather than wrapping
- >When ordering online, always choose the option for “less packages,” and check the option for having all your items delivered on the same day (which saves on delivery vehicle fuel and carbon emissions as well)
- >Less is more – a lot of thought put into one gift is better than quantity, and may result in less returns
- >Gift *activities, online subscriptions*, etc., as an alternative to gifting objects.
- >conserve wrapping paper! Place your present diagonally on a piece of wrapping paper large enough to have the corners covered <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAQnxcIIDEE>

Re-using:

- >Just about any container can come in a reusable form.
examples:
 - o water bottle
 - o shopping bags
 - o refrigerator/freezer storage bins
 - o trash receptacles that don't use plastic bags as liners
- >wrapping paper – fold it away for another day
- >re-gift that item that wasn't right for you – to someone who could really use it. No judgment here!
- >try shopping for gifts in used furniture stores, and vintage clothing or even thrift stores. You will find one-of-a-kind treasures and it can be a fun experience.

Re-purposing:

anybody can DIY, especially when it comes to re-purposing....
make an art-object from curios that have been hanging around and are about to get thrown out. Remember: someone's (your) junk is someone else's treasure.... sometimes simply because you put some thought into it.

- >teacup candles (see pic). When they're spent, go back to drinking tea!
- >glue some memorabilia (even scraps of signature wrapping paper from last year or this year) to a translucent lamp shade

- >make a decorative multiple gift “stack” out of the boxes that the items were delivered in
- >old desk drawers make interesting displays when spruced up. Also good for holding coffee-table books, albums, etc. Place them on a low table or right on the floor
- >don't throw your artificial Christmas tree out – break it down into wreaths or use as part of floral arrangements.
- >consider saving some of the shirt boxes and more durable cardboard boxes left over from your gift exchange for use in wrapping next-year's presents.
- >pay a visit to **EcoWorks** on State Street in North Haven – There you will find unique gifts that are made from mostly re-purposed materials/items, by local makers and crafters!



Recycling:

Note that “recycle” is the last heading on this list because the other options should be considered first. Remember, although recycling certainly cuts down on emissions and resources, collection and processing do have costs. That being said, you can recycle:

- >real Christmas trees
- >basic wrapping paper (no extra finishes) – Hint: put someone in charge of collecting and separating >these items during your unwrapping ceremonies – you will find it less overwhelming later!
- >Single-use plastic cups
- >hot liquid plastic tops (not the cups)

As always, it's important to know what is *not* recyclable, as putting such items in your bin can render whole truckloads of supposed recyclables “contaminated” and thus rejected at the materials reduction facility.

Not recyclable:

- >tree light strings (there *are* mail-in services online that recycle old and broken light strings.)
- >tinsel
- >ornaments
- >artificial trees

City of New Haven meeting schedule:

<https://newhaven-ct.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

New Haven Parks and Public Works info:

A Message from Parks and Public Works Resident Services:

Happy Holidays from Parks and Public Works! This the season for gift-giving. Please break down boxes and place them neatly folded inside your blue recycling bin. Gift wrapping paper, gift bags, tissue paper and Styrofoam packing peanuts cannot be recycled. Please place in your trash bin.

We are wrapping up leaf bag pick-up soon and transitioning to snow removal. Leaves should be packed in brown paper bags only. Do not place rocks, dirt, or branches inside the brown leaf bags. Do not use plastic yard waste bags. Leaf bags should be placed curbside the night before trash pick-up day.

Reminder that trash and recycling totes should be placed the night before of your trash pick-up day to ensure that your totes will be properly emptied out.

Our office located at 34 Middletown Ave will be closed on Monday, Dec 26th and Monday, January 2nd. The residential drop-off center located at 260 Middletown Ave will also be closed. Please take note that trash and recycling pick up will be delayed a day.

As always, if you have any questions, give Parks and Public Works Resident Services a call at (203) 946-7700. We have been experiencing heavy call volume but if you leave your name and phone number with a question we will get back to you.

Remember you can always report Public Works issues at **See Click Fix** found on the New Haven City website (see "Links," below).

Links:

New Haven Public Works-

<https://www.newhavenct.gov/gov/depts/pw/>

Public Works paving schedule-

<https://www.newhavenct.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/15028/637903861608081376>

See Click Fix-

<https://seeclickfix.com/new-haven>

NHSWRA contact info and link:



14 Trumbull Street, Suite 102

New Haven, CT 06511

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Fax: 203.691.5990

www.nhswra.com

info@nhswra.com

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