

### **Tips on Properly Handling Waste Water when Painting**

- Find a sewer connection at the site to dispose of waste water (or take it to an approved sewer disposal location). Never dump waste water on the street, or down storm drains, ditches or other drainage pathways. Only wastewater from the cleanup of latex paint and equipment can be discharged to the sanitary sewer.
- Recycle, return or donate any unwanted water-based (latex) paint. Cans that are empty or have dried latex paint can be placed in the trash.
- Recycle leftover oil-based paint and paint thinner, or handle them as hazardous waste. Contact your local household hazardous waste recycling center for detailed instructions.
- If you use cold, low-pressure water only to wash a building prior to painting, you may discharge to the ground. If the water contains oils, soaps, or detergents, collect the wash water from buildings and dispose of it in a sewer system. Wastewater from washing buildings with lead-based paint may exceed discharge limits. Contact your local sewer utility for approval in such cases.

### **Tips on Preventing or Handling a Waste Water Spill when Painting**

- Promptly clean up any waste water that spills or leaks. If waste water reaches a storm drain system, contact your local city or county.
- Keep a spill kit on hand to deal with unexpected spills. Train your employees to use the spill kit materials and keep records of the training your employees receive.

**Have questions about the proper disposal of waste water?  
Contact the city or county where your job is located.**