

## When are Empty Paint Cans Classed as Hazardous Waste

**This is currently applicable in England and Wales. Separate advice will be issued for Scotland.**

On all Galliford Try construction sites we need to ensure that the wastes produced as part of our construction activities are disposed of in a legally compliant manner – irrespective of whether wastes are produced by GT or by our subcontractors.

Whenever disposing of empty or partially empty waste containers (paint and woodcare), the following must be addressed:

1. A GT Waste Transfer Note should be fully completed and signed
2. All empty or partially empty waste containers should leave the site with a licensed waste carrier
3. The site to which the empty or partially empty waste containers are taken must have an appropriate Environmental Permit or Exemption.

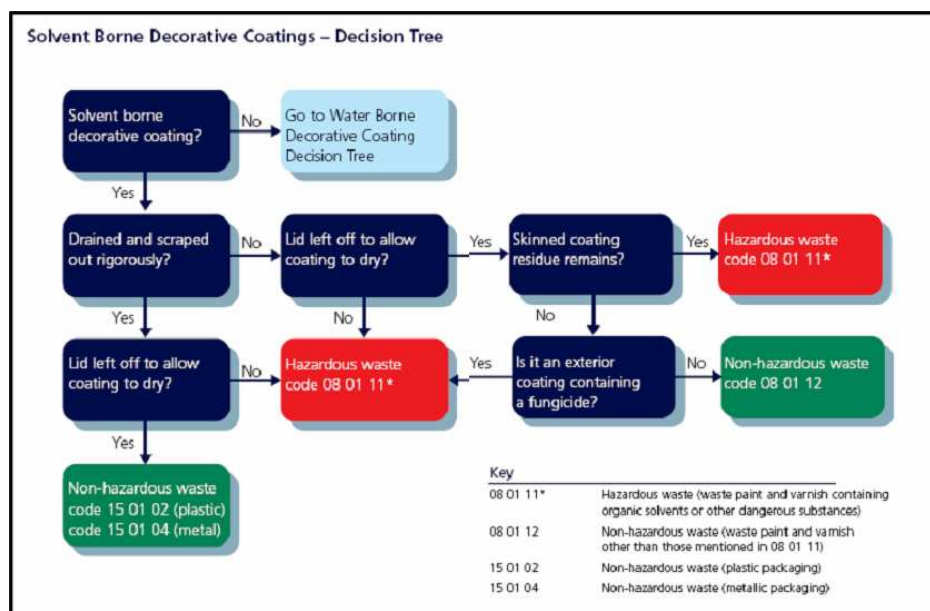


Generally, users of paint and woodcare containers should:

1. Use as much of the product from the container as possible, scraping out the last dregs with the brush
2. Leave the lid off to allow any residue to dry fully
3. Allocate the correct EWC code for the empty or partially empty waste container (refer to the below)
4. Dispose of the empty or partially empty waste containers via a licensed waste carrier.

### Solvent Based Paint Cans

For solvent based paint and woodcare coatings, the decision tree shown below can be used to determine whether the empty or partially empty waste containers are classed as a hazardous or non-hazardous waste.

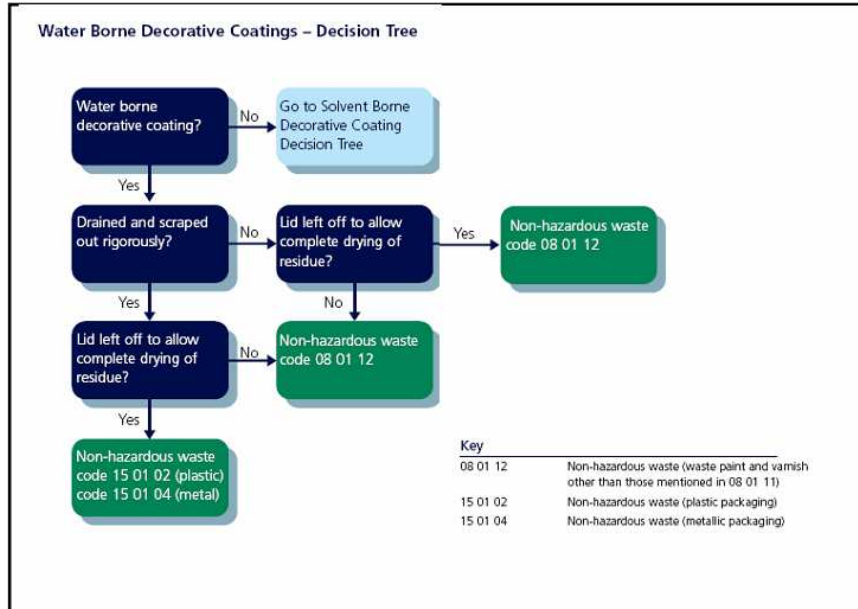


In summary,

- If lid is not left off to allow the paint to dry it will be hazardous waste (EWC code 08-01-11).
- If skinned coating residue remains it will be hazardous waste (EWC code 08-01-11).
- If it an exterior coating containing a fungicide it will be hazardous (EWC code 08-01-11).
- If it hasn't been drained / scrapped our rigorously it will be hazardous (EWC code 08-01-11).

## Water Based Paint Cans

For water based paint and woodcare coatings, the decision tree shown below can be used to determine whether the empty or partially empty waste containers are classed as a hazardous or non-hazardous waste.



In summary,

- All the waste will be non hazardous waste provided that it is drained / scraped and lid left off to completely dry of residue (EWC code 08-01-12)
- If the paint pot is plastic the EWC will be 15-01-02
- If the paint pot is metallic the EWC will be 15-01-04.

## Supplier Take-Back Schemes

One of the main supplier take-back schemes is the Dulux Paint Can Recycling Scheme. This scheme accepts wet cans containing no more than 2.5cm of water-based or solvent paints, along with dry cans.

Under the scheme there are two options, namely:

1. The supplier returns the paint tins to a Dulux Decorator Centre (DDC) Store, or
2. A DDC Van collects from the customer site (this can be arranged by calling 0845-600-2400).

**Products that are accepted through the scheme are:** ICI Dulux or ICI Glidden, ICI Cuprino (excludes Cuprinol Sprayer and Sprayable Plus), Sikkens, Emulsion, Gloss, Eggshell, Satin, Undercoat, Primer, Floor Paint, Masonry Paint, Exterior Paint and International Paints (only Decorating products).

**Products that are not accepted through the scheme are:** Paintbrush Cleaners e.g., turpentine substitute, Paint Stripper, Car Paint, Specialist and Industrial Paints, Aerosol and Spray Paints and Cellulose-based Paints (thinners used in paints are acceptable).

A GT Waste Transfer Note should be fully completed and signed to fulfil our obligations under the duty of care regulations.

If you require further assistance, please consult with your the Regional Environmental Advisor / Framework Environmental Advisor.

**Amit Patel**  
Regional Environmental Advisor – South