

What do I do with old paint?

It is best to use paints for intended use but, if all else fails and you must dispose of your old latex paint, turn it into solid waste. If there's less than one-fourth of the paint in the can, take it outside, place it where kids and pets can't get to it, remove the lid and let the paint air dry. When the paint is hard, you can put the cans with the rest of your trash. Leave the lids off to show your trash collector that the can is safe for collection.

For larger quantities of paint, brush or roll the paint onto layers of newspaper or cardboard. When the paint dries, put the paper in the trash bin. Alternatively, you can pour the paint into a cardboard box and mix it with shredded newspaper, cat litter, or a commercial paint hardener to speed solidification. The box and can go in the trash when the paint dries.

What can I do with used motor oil, or old car batteries?

Most auto parts stores will accept old car batteries and uncontaminated (no water) used motor oil free of charge. AUTOZONE at 207 West Highway 70 in Ruidoso accepts used batteries and uncontaminated motor oil free of charge.

What can I do with unwanted electronics (E-Waste)?

LED/HD TV's, Computer screens (flat), computers of any kind and most all electronics that have digital screens are considered hazardous waste and must be disposed of properly at a permitted facility. The Alto Lakes Convenience Station is not permitted for handling these types of waste.

Many retail stores (Wal-Mart, Target, K-Mart, Bestbuy, etc..) have Brand return policies; meaning if they sold it they will dispose of it, if returned working or not (check with store for this option). Some retail stores (Radio Shack, Bestbuy, etc..) have electronic Trade-in programs where they will offer a trade in value for used electronics toward the purchase of new devices (check with store for this option).

In the Alto/Ruidoso area the only permitted facility for the disposal of electronic waste is the Greentree Solid Waste Transfer Station located at 26590 Highway 70 in Ruidoso Downs. E-Waste and electronics can be disposed of at this facility for a fee.