

# Thurston Solid Waste News

February / March 2023

### **Mulch Program Ends** A Fond Farewell

In case you haven't heard, the free mulch program at the Waste and Recovery Center (WARC) in Lacey ended on January 31. Customers need to find alternative sources beginning February 1 for the spring gardening season and beyond.

The free mulch program at the WARC started in 2018 as a way for Thurston County Public Works to give back to the community. While it has been successful, growing concerns about safety and liability led to the decision to end the program.

### What will happen to yard waste?

Thurston County remains committed to keeping yard waste out of the landfill. Yard waste collected at the curb or self-hauled to the WARC will continue to be composted at a nearby commercial composting



facility and used as a soil amendment. Visit us online for full details: <a href="mailto:ThurstonSolidWaste.org">ThurstonSolidWaste.org</a>

### **Options for free mulch**

We suggest you search "free mulch" online for alternatives in your area.

# **Question & Answer Clinic**Gardening, Composting, Recycling

Have a question about gardening, composting, or recycling? Our certified volunteers can help by using the most accurate, unbiased, scientifically proven, local information and resources.

The Master Gardener and the Master Recycler Composter programs of Thurston County offer this free service to all Thurston County residents. Email questions to <a href="master@co.thurston.wa.us">master@co.thurston.wa.us</a>.

#### Include a photo when possible

Please attach a couple of photos or the issue with your email. Providing photos with your message will help the volunteers respond faster.



Learn more about the Master Gardener and Master Recycler Composter programs: <a href="https://extension.wsu.edu/thurston/gardening/mc/">https://extension.wsu.edu/thurston/gardening/mc/</a>

# **Household Hazards**

### Latex paint recycling is here!

We have great news! You no longer need to dry out your latex paints and throw them in the garbage.

HazoHouse at the Waste and Recovery Center in Lacey now accepts latex paints for free through a product stewardship program called PaintCare!

In addition to paint, HazoHouse accepts primers, wood stains, varnishes, and more. There is no cost to Thurston County residents. Fees apply to businesses for non-PaintCare materials.

See a complete list of accepted materials at Thurstoncountywa.gov/pw/sw-grhome/Pages/sw-HouseHazWaste.aspx.



There are several other participating paint take-back sites in Thurston County. Visit <u>paintcare.org</u> to find a drop-off site near you and give your paint a second life

## Where Do I Take My...?

### Search hundreds of materials online

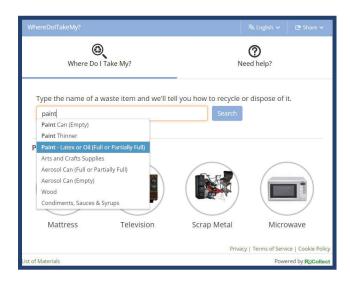
If you're looking to get rid of something else, check out the county's "Where Do I Take My?" directory at WhereDolTakeMy.org. It has hundreds of listings for places to donate, recycle, and dispose of items.

### **Call or get directions immediately**

You can click for directions to a drop-off location right from your computer or mobile device. You can even click to call or email them if you need to confirm details.

Try it now by scanning this QR code with your phone!





### **Questions?**

(360) 867-2491

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