

Shoptalk

SPRING 2021

HAVE **EXTRA PAINT** AROUND?
THERE'S A
NEW WAY TO
RECYCLE THAT!

REPLACING
**TOXIC RECEIPT
PAPER** AT JBLM.



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

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About Shoptalk

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WHAT'S **NEW** WITH **DANGEROUS WASTE** TODAY?

It just got easier to recycle paint

MEGAN WARFIELD

Thanks to a new paint recycling program, households and businesses can now bring leftover paint to over 150 drop-off locations statewide, including many paint retail stores.

The paint industry created PaintCare, a

nonprofit organization, to help manage leftover paint in states with paint stewardship laws.¹

Who can participate?

Anyone can drop off **latex paint**: households, small quantity generators, medium quantity generators, and large quantity generators. If

you want to drop off **oil-based paints**, you must be a household or a small quantity generator.

Which paint products are accepted?

The program accepts latex and oil-based paints as well as some stains, lacquers,



and varnishes. They don't accept thinners, solvents, specialty coatings, or aerosols. Partial cans of paint are accepted, but the paint must be in its original, non-leaking container with the original manufacturer's label. If you're not sure whether your product qualifies, check out the [full list of accepted products](#).²

How do I find a collection site near me?

Find a drop-off site on PaintCare's website and call the drop-off location to see if they have any limits on the type or quantity of paint they accept. If you have a lot of paint, PaintCare also offers a pick-up service.

What will it cost me to drop off paint?

Nothing. There is no fee to drop off paint at approved PaintCare locations.

Where does the paint go after it's collected?

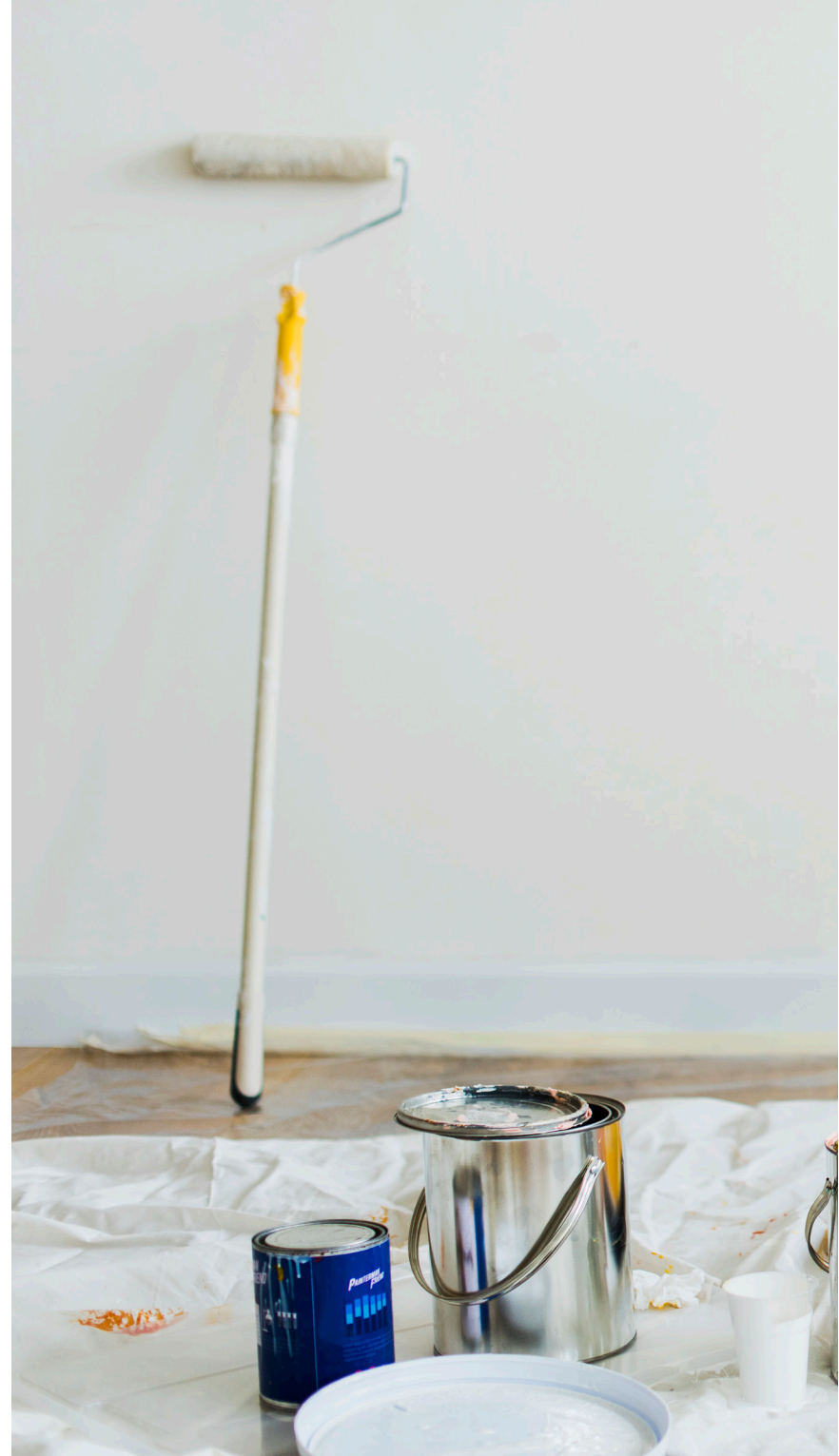
PaintCare contracts dangerous waste haulers to pick up paint from collection sites. Paint is then shipped to recycling facilities or permitted treatment, storage, and disposal facilities.

Learn more at:

- ecology.wa.gov/PaintRecycle³
- paintcare.org⁴



* This information is provided as a convenience only. Any reference in this publication to persons, organizations, services, or activities does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation, or preference by the Washington State Department of Ecology.



Switch to safer degreasers and get money back

THATCHER MONTGOMERY

If you own an auto repair shop, you could qualify for reimbursements by switching to safer degreasers.

Many common auto shop degreasers contain chemicals that are harmful to human health and the environment—chemicals like:

- Methylene chloride
- Toluene
- Hexane

After applying to this program and transitioning to degreasers without these chemicals, you may qualify for reimbursement. Switching to aqueous (water-based) cleaners will get you the most money back.

This program aims to:

1. Remove the “worst of the worst” chemicals, like EPA-listed hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) and halogens (chlorine, fluorine, iodine, and bromine).
2. Encourage shops to adopt aqueous-based products, which are generally safer than solvent-based degreasers.

Why switch?

Using these products can negatively affect both worker health and your bottom line. Exposure to HAPs and halogenated products can cause negative short-term effects like skin rashes, slowed reactions, fatigue, dizziness, or headaches. Long-term exposure can cause damage to the kidney, liver, or nervous system, and increases the chance of cancer. Many products containing these chemicals designate as dangerous waste when it's time to dispose of them.

There are alternatives, though. Some solvent-based degreasers don't contain the “worst of the worst” chemicals, and many aqueous-based degreasers are safer, lead to lower operating costs, and work just as well as what they replace.



How to switch and get reimbursed

Here's how to make the switch to safer degreasers:

1. Visit [our website](#)⁵ and fill out our survey.
2. Apply for the program. Applications open this summer. It's okay if you don't know which alternative you'll use.
3. Work with your supplier and Ecology to find a safer alternative that works for you.
4. Submit your voucher and receive reimbursement. ♦



To find out more, contact:
Thatcher Montgomery
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How to keep your workplace safer when returning to your facility

LAUREN TAMBOER

Many businesses are planning to return to their physical workspaces this spring. If you have questions about keeping your facility clean with the increase in foot traffic, we have some tips that may help.

Purchase safer disinfectants

EPA made it easier to find safer disinfectant products. You can [search their list](#)⁶ of certified disinfectants to find products with safer ingredients. Choosing from this list will help protect your custodial staff, employees, customers, and Washington's environment from toxic chemicals.

If you can't find a certified product, check out the ingredients list. Look

for disinfectants with safer active ingredients like ethanol, citric acid, isopropyl alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, or L-lactic acid.

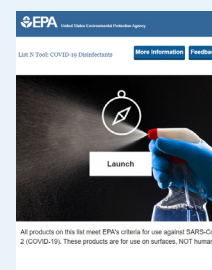
Use disinfectants correctly

1. Wipe any dirt or residue from surfaces before disinfecting.
2. Apply disinfectant and let it sit for the recommended "dwell time." This refers to the amount of time a product should remain on the surface visibly wet to disinfect.
3. Don't mix your disinfectants with other cleaning products (unless that's specified in the instructions).
4. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water after disinfecting.

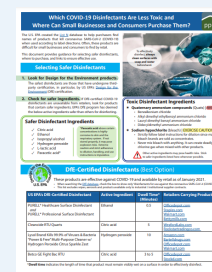


If you need help identifying a safer option for any chemicals or products you use at your business, contact our Safer Chemicals team at Safer.Chem@ecy.wa.gov.

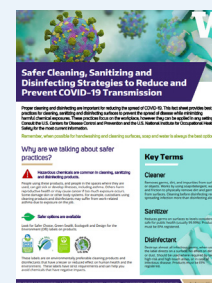
More tips and resources



Not all certified products protect against COVID-19. If you need to disinfect your space from COVID-19, check the [EPA's search tool](#).⁷



The University of Washington School of Public Health compiled information on safer [COVID-19 disinfecting strategies](#).⁸



See the [Pollution Prevention Resource Center's resource](#)⁹ to learn where to buy products with safer ingredients.

SMALL CHANGES, **BIG** RESULTS:
DANGEROUS WASTE
SUCCESS STORIES

Helping Joint Base Lewis-McChord find a non-toxic replacement for receipt paper

LEATTA DAHLHOFF & MYLES PERKINS

For those of you asking, “Wait—receipt paper is toxic?” The answer is yes; most receipt paper handed to you at grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, and other retailers contains toxic chemicals called bisphenols (or phenols) like Bisphenol A (BPA).

Long-term exposure can cause blood and liver toxicity in humans. Putting receipts in the recycling bin is one of the largest sources of BPA release to the environment—that BPA receipt paper is not recyclable. Since BPA is a contaminant of emerging concern for orcas in Puget Sound, we’re working to reduce the use of this chemical.



We worked closely with Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) to reduce their use of toxic receipt paper. So far, JBLM:

- Replaced 1,150 BPA-containing rolls with phenol-free alternatives. We plan to replace a total of 1,900 rolls.
- Reduced phenol use on base by 460 pounds per year.

Our project focused on finding a phenol-free receipt paper that would still meet performance requirements. The replacement

paper needed to meet certain standards within these categories:

- Paper color
- Printing speed
- Paper jams
- Text readability
- Texture (i.e., feel of the paper)

We helped JBLM find suppliers and set up a demonstration at retail locations on base, so they could evaluate product performance. Overall, the alternatives were well received.

One of the biggest benefits of the new BPA-free receipt paper is that it works with current equipment—retailers only have to change the type of receipt paper they order.

JBLM is considering a full-scale rollout of BPA-free receipts by 2024. This aligns with one of their major goals to “sustain and protect the environment as a fully integrated community partner in the lower Puget Sound.”

[Our staff](#)¹⁰ supports Washington businesses year-round with waste-reduction projects like this one. To see more examples of the types of work we do, check out our [2020 Annual Report](#).¹¹ ♦



To find out more, contact:
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One change saves a local business over \$300K per year!

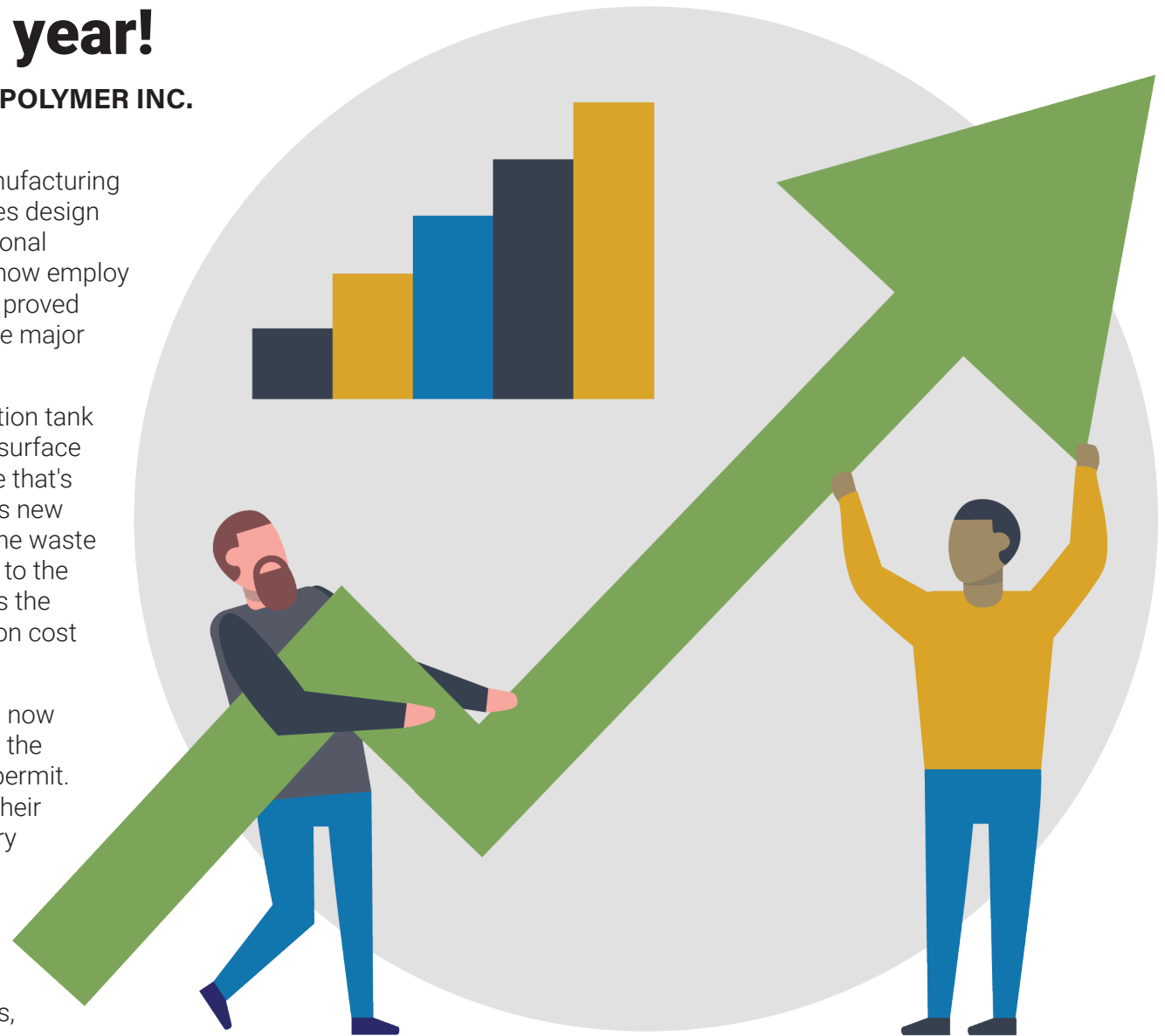
SCOTT MESSINGALE, US WAX & POLYMER INC.

US Wax & Polymer Inc. is a turnkey manufacturing company in Spokane Valley that provides design and engineering services to an international customer base. Founded in 1992, they now employ 40 people. In 2019, this small company proved they could think big by incorporating one major change to their manufacturing process.

They installed an elementary neutralization tank treatment system. US Wax's anodizing surface finishing line creates sulfuric acid waste that's saturated with aluminum. Thanks to this new treatment system, they can neutralize the waste with sodium hydroxide and discharge it to the sewer. This process improvement saves the company money and helps them pass on cost savings to their customers.

This means their spent wastewater can now be neutralized and then discharged into the sewer under a water quality discharge permit. They used to neutralize and evaporate their wastewater; however, evaporation is very expensive.

US Wax had this new system designed and installed in 2019. It will save them more than \$300,000 per year in electrical and maintenance costs, with a payback period of less than one year. Now that's a good investment! ♦



NEW OR UPDATED **RESOURCES** FOR DANGEROUS WASTE GENERATORS



Guides

[Reduzca su Exposición a los Sustancias Per y Polifluoroalquilo](#)¹²



Reports

[Toxics Reduction Program: 2020 Annual Report](#)¹³



Forms

[EPCRA Section 311: Safety Data Sheet Reporting Form](#)¹⁴

[EPCRA Section 312: Tier Two Chemical Inventory](#)¹⁵



Focus sheets

[Focus on: Small Quantity Generators Treating Dangerous Waste](#)¹⁶

[Focus on: Special Waste Exclusion](#)¹⁷

[Focus on: Unknown Wastes](#)¹⁸



Posters

[How Do I Manage My Dangerous Waste Pharmaceuticals?](#)¹⁹



Other

[Design for the Environment \(DfE\)- Certified Disinfectants](#)²⁰



UPCOMING **EVENTS & TRAININGS**

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Green Chemistry & Chemical Online Certificate Program

When: Starts Sept. 27, 2021

Where: Online

Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference (Now virtual!)

When: June 14–18, 2021

Where: Online

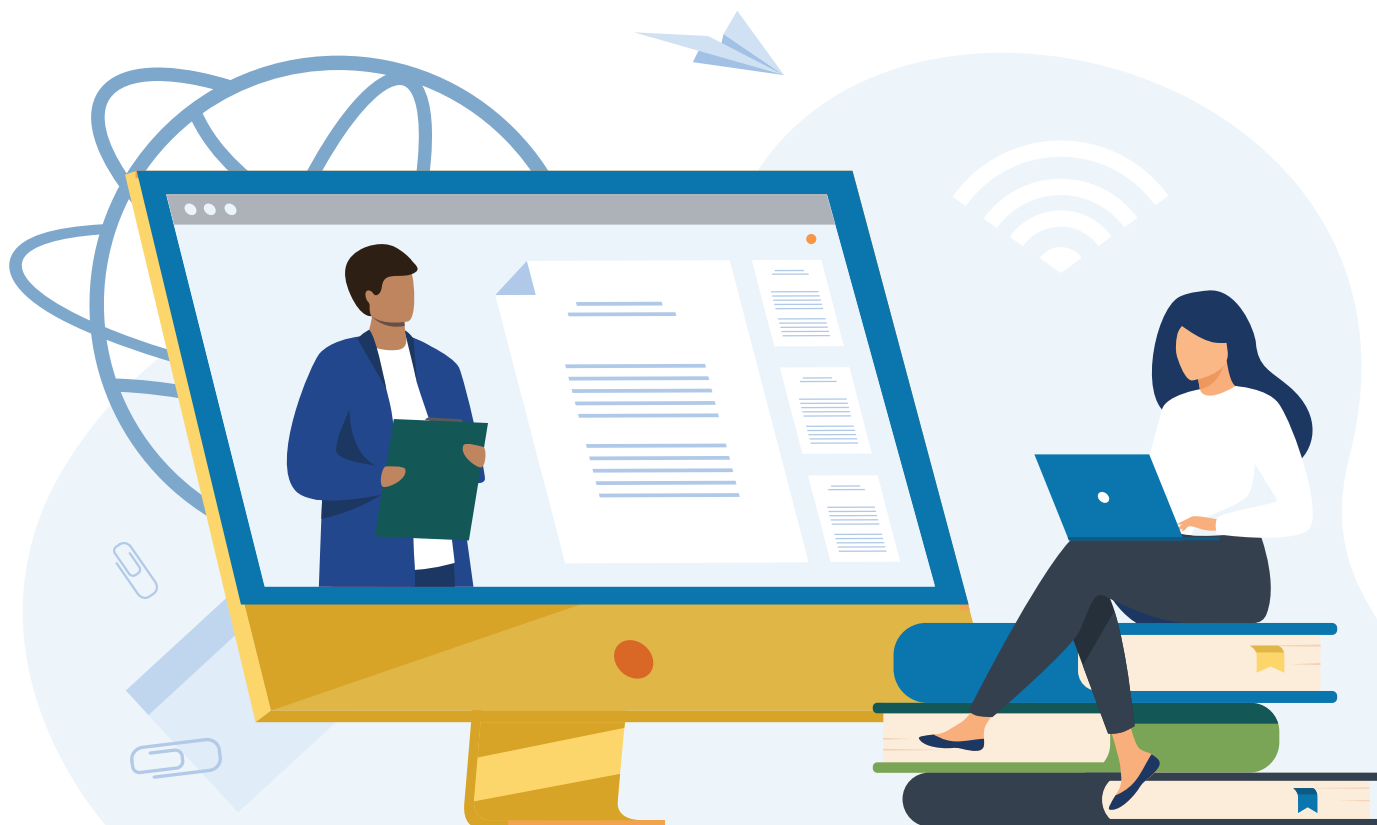


IMAGE CREDITS

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3. POS terminal vector created by Upklyak. <https://www.freepik.com/vectors/business>
4. People helping eachother vector created by MacroVector. <https://www.freepik.com/vectors/business>
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6. Webinar vector created by Pch.Vector. <https://www.freepik.com/vectors/school>

ENDNOTES

- 1 Chapter 70A.515 RCW
- 2 <https://www.paintcare.org/products-we-accept/#/what-products-are-included>
- 3 <https://ecology.wa.gov/PaintRecycle>
- 4 <https://www.paintcare.org/>
- 5 <https://ecology.wa.gov/autodegreasers>
- 6 <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-labels/dfe-certified-disinfectants>
- 7 <https://cfpub.epa.gov/giwiz/disinfectants/index.cfm>
- 8 https://osha.washington.edu/sites/default/files/documents/FactSheet_Cleaning_Final_UWDEOHS_0.pdf
- 9 <https://secureservercdn.net/50.62.88.87/gzr.ca7.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/SaferCOVID19DisinfectantFS2021.pdf>
- 10 <https://ecology.wa.gov/ToxicsReductionTeam>
- 11 <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2104011.html>
- 12 <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2004043ES.html>
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- 16 <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1404004.html>
- 17 <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2104013.html>
- 18 <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2004006.html>
- 19 <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2104022.html>
- 20 <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-labels/dfe-certified-disinfectants>

