



Standard Guide for Artists' Paint Waste Disposal in Private, Non-Commercial Settings¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation ; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This guide establishes recommendations for the safe and environmentally friendly clean up and disposal of artists' paints and by-products of their use in a private, non-commercial setting.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.3 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

D4302 Specification for Artists' Oil, Resin-Oil, and Alkyd Paints

D5067 Specification for Artists' Watercolor Paints

D5098 Specification for Artists' Acrylic Dispersion Paints

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 *grounding and bonding*, *v*—connecting and grounding containers to provide an electrically conductive path to reduce the risk of static and spark between the items, therefore, reducing the risk of fire or explosion in a flammable atmosphere or environment.

3.1.2 *organic solvents*, *n*—non-aqueous liquid substances capable of dissolving other substances; for artist's paints, these may include mineral spirits, turpentine, other petroleum and non-petroleum based solvents, and vegetable oil.

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **D01** on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **D01.57** on Artist Paints and Related Materials.

Current edition approved Feb. 1, 2011. Published March 2011. DOI:10.1520/D7354-11.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

3.2 *Notes:*

3.2.1 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site — Over 3000 collection programs have been undertaken in the United States. Check with the local chamber of commerce, county, or state environmental or solid waste agency to see if there is a household hazardous waste collection program in your area. These collection sites typically have no fees or charges for use by local non-commercial waste generators.

4. Summary of Guide

4.1 This guide establishes recommendations for the environmentally responsible clean up and disposal of waste produced by users of artists' paint products and solvents.

4.2 Several pigments listed in Specification **D4302** for inclusion in artists' oil, resin-oil, and alkyd, Specification **D5067** for artists' watercolor paints, and Specification **D5098** for artists' acrylic dispersion paints are materials that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considers hazardous waste when disposed of or released to the environment due to toxic pigment used in some paints. These toxic pigments are capable of groundwater contamination.

4.3 The solvents used with the artists' paints may also be hazardous waste when disposed of or released to the environment due to their flammability and toxicity. The addition of a hazardous pigment to an organic solvent or water may make the mixture also hazardous to the environment. Evaporation of these organic solvents also harms human health and the environment.

4.4 These hazardous materials should be managed and stored carefully to prevent exposure to the user and disposed of in a responsible manner to prevent harm to the environment such as by taking them to a household hazardous waste collection site.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This guide establishes recommendations for the environmentally responsible clean up and disposal of waste produced by users of artists' paint products and solvents. It does not supersede laws or regulations, but recommends prudent practices.

5.2 This guide's use should be limited to artists whose work is not creating income. Artists who are in business or in other