

# Dispose of your acrylic paint water the eco-friendly way!

## This Leaflet will show you easy and effective methods!

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printed in recycled paper



# Be an EARTH FRIENDLY ARTIST!



*Painting  
with acrylics is easy and fun....but,  
what about disposing of the leftover paint water?*

It's not good for the environment to pour that water down the sink, because there are **toxins** in the paint that will get into the soil and hurt the plants and animals.

And the solid bits of paint in the water will clog the pipes and seep into the water supply, creating a **health hazard**.

*Be sure to do this at home or school  
wherever you do acrylic painting!*

an initiative by



## After painting..... do this:

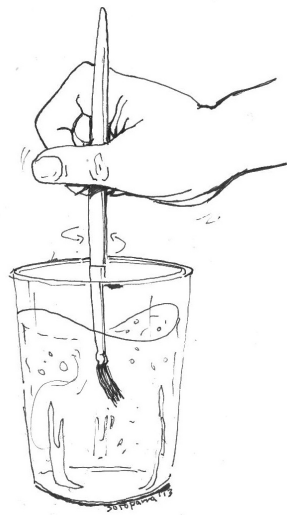
1)

Wipe off as much of the excess paint from your brushes as you can with a cloth or paper towel before you rinse them in your container of water. This will mean less paint gets into the rinse water.



2)

After you have wiped off the excess paint, swish your brushes in your container of water, rinsing as much paint as you can from the brush.



3)

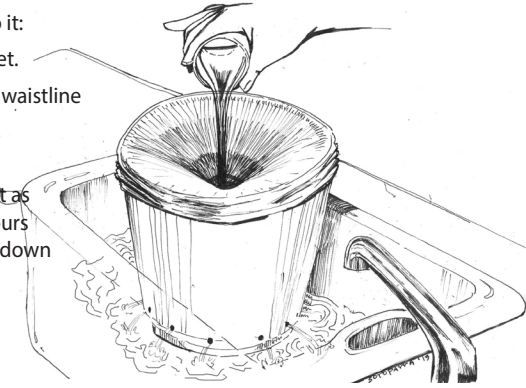
Pour a tablespoon of washing soda (sodium carbonate) in the water and let it sit for about a half hour. (Be sure to get washing soda, not baking soda.) A chemical reaction will turn the acrylic waste water into harmless soap water. All that will be left to do will be to make sure no solid bits of acrylic go down the drain when you dispose of the water in your container. You can do this in two ways:



## DISPOSAL OF LIQUID METHOD 1

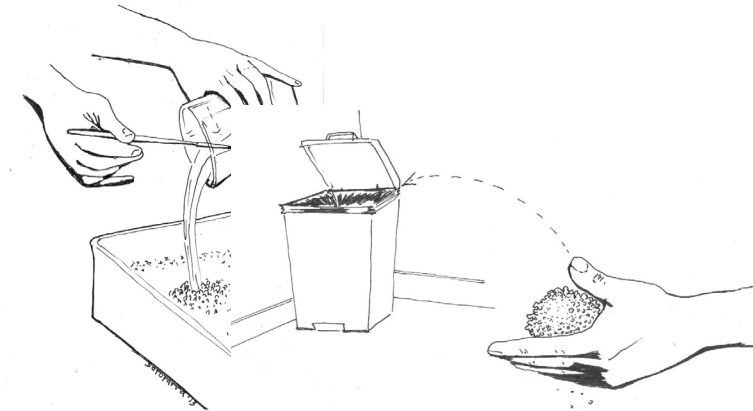
This method is called "Tights in a Bucket". Here is how you do it:

- 1) Drill or cut holes around the bottom edge of a large bucket.
- 2) Place a pair of old tights inside the bucket and secure the waistline around the top edge.
- 3) Place the bucket in the sink.
- 4) Dump your soapy water into the bucket. The tights will act as a filter and collect any solid acrylic bits. The filtered water pours out through the holes in the bottom of the bucket and goes down the drain safely. Replace the tights filter when it becomes too clogged or ineffective.



## DISPOSAL OF LIQUID METHOD 2

- 1) Fill a kitty litter tray or similar deep tray with about two inches of clumping kitty litter, the kind that absorbs liquid and leaves a dry ball of hardened sand.



- 2) If you pour your wastewater in small amounts into the bucket of kitty litter you will be left with small hardened clumps of sand that can then be scooped out and dropped into a small plastic bag and disposed of with the rubbish. This is a safe way to dispose of the solid acrylic bits



**Choose a preferred disposal method :**

**Happy Painting!!**