

Safety Sheet 7 – Painting

Consult the Ontario *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and its regulations for detailed information

1. Facilities Service shall advise the Building Management Agent well in advance about any planned painting work.
2. The Building Management Agent will advise occupants prior to the start of work to reduce possible health problems or sensitivities.
3. Wherever possible, meeting rooms, offices and classrooms are to be painted when these are not occupied. If not possible, consider relocating personnel temporarily or providing an temporary, alternate work location.
4. If oil-based is used, the work must be completed after regular work hours and prior to midnight.
5. If latex paint is used, the work may occur during regular work hours, provided occupants are not within the immediate vicinity.
6. Wherever possible, ensure that the ventilation system is continually active.
7. If necessary, install commercial fume extraction to reduce solvent vapours emanating from paint.
8. When painting, access by staff, employees and the general public must be limited. Restrict access where work is performed at heights (for example, on ladders).
9. If vapours bother occupants, they must notify their supervisor who must review the situation as soon as practicable.
10. In cases where painters do not appear to be following proper procedures or using oil based paints during work hours, the situation must be immediately reported to the Building Management Agent responsible for the building.