



Guidelines for the use of Boundary Paint

There are three components to boundary maintenance, painting, signing and brushing. Refreshing yellow blazes along the boundary line is an essential component of corridor stewardship, as a well-blazed line demonstrates that the line and the property it demarcates is cared for. Bright yellow blazes show where these lines are.

The paint that we use is formulated to last for several years in all weather conditions when it is applied to smooth surfaces. The lasting power of this paint comes with a price—the toxicity of the compounds that make it up. Consequently, it is important that corridor stewards are careful to protect themselves and the environment they are working in while painting.

Personal Protective Equipment

The Material Safety Data Sheet that accompanies boundary yellow paint and the ATC recommend that corridor stewards wear eye protection, head protection, and nitrile gloves when applying this paint.

When applying paint in areas of poor circulation such as valleys or closed fir stands, or on humid days, both the MSDS standards and ATC advise the use of a respirator. The ATC has obtained the appropriate respirators, as well as nitrile gloves and safety glasses, and has some of these available. To obtain any of these materials or the paint itself, please contact your club's corridor monitor coordinator.

Use

The paint separates when it sits. Before opening new cans of paint, shake them up. Many hardware stores have mechanical paint shakers they may let you use that can markedly ease the burden of this task.

When transferring paint to smaller containers, use a funnel, have several rags on hand and lay down a plastic bag or other disposable surface to catch drips and avoid getting any paint on the ground. ATC Boundary Program staff use clean, empty, squeeze bottles (such as mustard, shampoo or liquid soap containers) as paint containers in the field. To paint a blaze, we squeeze paint onto the brush, and then apply it to the tree. This helps to minimize drips. You never have to clean them out; just start with a new bottle when the one you are using becomes too messy.

Disposal

When wet, boundary paint is a hazardous liquid, however when dry, it can be disposed of in regular trash. When disposing of an empty paint can or any other container that held paint, let the container air dry completely before disposing of it. This may take some time.