Spray Painting

General Information
Spray painting with an aerosol can is one of the easiest and quickest methods to touch-up or rejuvenate surfaces. Since it provides easy application and is readily available, it is one of the most common ways painting is completed.

Potential Hazards
- Fumes or vapors that are harmful if inhaled or ingested.
- Fire from flammable contents
- Explosion from unexpected release of pressure
- Paint in eyes, mouth, or on the skin

Hazard Mitigation
- Use spray paint outside or in well-ventilated areas, such as a paint booth.
- Avoid ignition sources and flammables.
- Be aware of wind and ventilation direction so people and other objects are not affected.
- Wear proper PPE (safety glasses/goggles and gloves).
- If painting for an extended period or in a poorly ventilated area, a respirator may be needed. (Respirator use is restricted to those with proper training.)
- Ensure an eye wash station is available.

Storage
- After use, clean out the spray nozzle so the paint can be used again.
- Spray paint should be kept from freezing.
- Large quantities should be stored in a flammable cabinet.
- Inspect stored paint at least annually as a part of your chemical inventory.

Disposal
- If the contents of the can are empty, it can be recycled or placed in your satellite accumulation area for pickup by EH&S.
- If any paint or propellant remains, submit a Waste Removal form so EH&S can pick it up and dispose of it responsibly.

Photo Source: Grainger