

# CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE OF SHERWIN-WILLIAMS FLUOROPOLYMER COATINGS

The molecules on the surface of Sherwin-Williams Coil Coatings fluoropolymer coating systems are so tightly bound together that it makes them resistant to many elements found in the environment such as air pollution, acid rain and general airborne dirt.

Although Sherwin-Williams Coil Coatings factory-applied finishes are extremely durable, a periodic cleaning to remove build-ups of resins and other residue is a good idea to extend coating life. A variety of methods for removal of surface deposits are available. Simple washing with plain water using hoses or pressure spray equipment is usually adequate. When heavy deposits of dirt or other contaminants dull surfaces, stronger methods may be needed.

## PRECAUTIONS

1. **Proper Equipment:** Do not use wire brushes, abrasives or similar cleaning tools which will mechanically abrade the coatings surface.
2. **Test:** Always test the cleaning agents listed below in an inconspicuous area before use on a large scale.
3. **Disposal:** Please make sure you dispose of cleaning solutions in an environmentally manner.

## GROUP A: HOT OR COLD DETERGENT SOLUTIONS

A 5% solution in water of commonly used commercial (non-industrial detergents will not have any deleterious effect on a paint surface. These solutions should be followed by an adequate rinse of water. Use a cloth or a soft brush for application.

## GRAFFITI REMOVAL SERVICES PRODUCTS

GRS solutions are environmentally friendly, non-toxic and water soluble. Easy application process, use a soft brush to apply and wet cloth to remove. Use only Sherwin-Williams approved products from GRS. To purchase approved product contact them at 503-231-1414, [product@grssupplies.com](mailto:product@grssupplies.com) or [grssupplies.com/collections/sherwinwilliams](http://grssupplies.com/collections/sherwinwilliams).

## GROUP B: SOLVENTS

Most organic solvents are flammable and/or toxic, and must be handled accordingly. Read the manufacturer's Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) on solvent used. Keep away from open flames, sparks and electrical motors. Use adequate ventilation, protective clothing, and goggles. Solvents may be used to remove on-water soluble deposits such as tar, grease and oil paint.

- Isopropyl (rubbing alcohol)

### GROUP C: PETROLEUM SOLVENTS AND TURPENTINE

(no permanent effect on surfaces)

- VM&P naphtha
- Mineral spirits

### CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS

Mildew: In areas subjected to high humidity levels, dirt and spore deposits can permit mildew growth to occur. The following solution is recommended to remove mildew when necessary.

- 1/3 cup dry powdered laundry detergent (ex. Tide™)
- 1 qt sodium hypochlorite 5% solution (ex. Clorox™)
- 3 qts water

Rust Stains: Hydrochloric, citric or muriatic acid, diluted with ten volumes of water, may assist in removing rust stains from fluoropolymer surfaces. Limit contact to five minutes. Oxalic acid solutions or acetic acid (vinegar) may be used for the same purpose. Flush with water.

CAUTION: Acid solutions are corrosive and toxic. Flush all surfaces with copious amounts of water after use.

### GRAFFITI

Graffiti presents a special problem because of the many possible agents used, generally aerosol paints. Sherwin-Williams has approved Graffiti Removal Services solutions as our approved graffiti removal product. GRS solutions are environmentally friendly, non-toxic and water soluble. Easy application process, use a soft brush to apply and wet cloth to remove. Use only Sherwin-Williams approved products from GRS. To purchase approved product contact them at 503-231-1414, [product@grssupplies.com](mailto:product@grssupplies.com) or [grssupplies.com/collections/sherwinwilliams](http://grssupplies.com/collections/sherwinwilliams).

### WARRANTY

Misuse or abuse of any of the cleaning agents listed above will result in a voiding of warranty for the surface affected.

### FLUOROPOLYMER COATINGS

- Fluropon® Family
- Flurothane® Family
- Flurospar® Family
- Valflon®

### AT YOUR SERVICE

Do you have a unique application? We'll work with you to find a solution. Want a unique color? We'll create it for you. Need a quick turnaround? Talk to us, and we'll help you get your project completed on time. We're here to help. In fact, with our availability at coating and service centers throughout the country, we're there for you. Give us a call and see how we can help with your next project.

#### COIL:

(888) 306-2645 or [coilhelp@sherwin.com](mailto:coilhelp@sherwin.com)

#### EXTRUSION:

(866) 351-6900 or [extrusionhelp@sherwin.com](mailto:extrusionhelp@sherwin.com)

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