



# Warren County Health Services

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Ginelle Jones, Director

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Email: [healthservices@warrencountyny.gov](mailto:healthservices@warrencountyny.gov)

Website: [www.warrencountyny.gov](http://www.warrencountyny.gov)

TO: Town Supervisors and Code and Enforcement Officers  
FROM: Pat Belden, Assistant Director of Public Health  
DATE: June 1, 2023  
RE: Lead Information

Warren County Public Health has a Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, which serves children through 6 years. The program provides education to families and community organizations, facilitates recommended childhood testing for those without insurance or who are underinsured, serves as a resource to healthcare and childcare providers, and provides case management to children with elevated blood lead levels. In addition, Public Health facilitates referrals to the NYSDOH Glens Falls District Office for environmental testing for children with blood lead levels 5mcg/dl or greater.

Common lead sources are paint, plumbing, and soil from older housing (before 1978). Some occupations and hobbies can also pose a risk to children through their exposure to residue on clothes or contact with items. Well intentioned families can be at risk of exposure while renovating their older housing. Lead can be inhaled or ingested. Being aware of potential lead hazards/safe renovation practices, maintaining good supervision, hand washing, and eating healthy foods can prevent or minimize risks of lead exposure. Routine childhood blood level testing is recommended for all one and two year old children.

I am requesting your assistance through your role to ensure families seeking project approval/permit of home repairs are educated on the availability of certified lead abatement contractors, provided information, and made aware of the potential for lead exposure and/or poisoning. I have included a few packets that are good resources for the "Do It Yourself" homeowners. Additional pamphlets can be ordered or accessed on line. The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/renovaterightbookletbwsept2011.pdf> and Contractors Lead Safety During Renovations [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-05/documents/contractors\\_lead\\_safety\\_during\\_renovations\\_508.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-05/documents/contractors_lead_safety_during_renovations_508.pdf)

Children need to be provided with lead safe environments. Please assist families looking for safe renovation options. Children can be in even more danger of poisoning if being treated for lead poisoning because lead will leach more readily back in their bodies with additional exposure. Children that have been identified and are under case management through the Lead Program are eligible for environmental testing for lead (for potential housing) to ensure it is lead safe prior to moving.

You can help protect children in our community from Lead Poisoning by:

- Being aware of the Lead Program and facilitate referrals as needed (761-6580)
- Reminding parents of 1 and 2 yrs. old children to have their children tested
- Sharing resources and information on the risks and hazards of lead
- Encouraging families to seek lead safe renovation practices, such as hiring a certified contractor

Please contact me at 761-6580 if you have any questions. I have included brochures for you to hand out to applicable families and would be happy to provide an in-service to your program staff if requested

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# THE LEAD-SAFE CERTIFIED GUIDE TO RENOVATE RIGHT

**WARNING**  
WORK AREA  
POISON  
NO SMOKING  
OR EATING

**CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION CAUTION**



Important lead hazard information for families, child care providers and schools.



# IT'S THE LAW!

Federal law requires contractors that disturb painted surfaces in homes, child care facilities and schools built before 1978 to be certified and follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination. Always ask to see your contractor's certification.

Federal law requires that individuals receive certain information before renovating more than six square feet of painted surfaces in a room for interior projects or more than twenty square feet of painted surfaces for exterior projects or window replacement or demolition in housing, child care facilities and schools built before 1978.

- Homeowners and tenants: renovators must give you this pamphlet before starting work.
- Child care facilities, including preschools and kindergarten classrooms, and the families of children under six years of age that attend those facilities: renovators must provide a copy of this pamphlet to child care facilities and general renovation information to families whose children attend those facilities.

# WHO SHOULD READ THIS PAMPHLET?

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## This pamphlet is for you if you:

- Reside in a home built before 1978.
- Own or operate a child care facility, including preschools and kindergarten classrooms, built before 1978, or
- Have a child under six years of age who attends a child care facility built before 1978.

## You will learn:

- Basic facts about lead and your health.
- How to choose a contractor, if you are a property owner.
- What tenants, and parents/guardians of a child in a child care facility or school should consider.
- How to prepare for the renovation or repair job.
- What to look for during the job and after the job is done.
- Where to get more information about lead.

## This pamphlet is not for:

- **Abatement projects.** Abatement is a set of activities aimed specifically at eliminating lead or lead hazards. EPA has regulations for certification and training of abatement professionals. If your goal is to eliminate lead or lead hazards, contact the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)** for more information.
- **“Do-it-yourself” projects.** If you plan to do renovation work yourself, this document is a good start, but you will need more information to complete the work safely. Call the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)** and ask for more information on how to work safely in a home with lead-based paint.
- **Contractor education.** Contractors who want information about working safely with lead should contact the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)** for information about courses and resources on lead-safe work practices.



# RENOVATING, REPAIRING, OR PAINTING?

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- Is your home, your building, or the child care facility or school your children attend being renovated, repaired, or painted?
- Was your home, your building, or the child care facility or school where your children under six years of age attend built before 1978?

If the answer to these questions is YES, there are a few important things you need to know about lead-based paint.

This pamphlet provides basic facts about lead and information about lead safety when work is being done in your home, your building or the child care facility or school your children attend.

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## The Facts About Lead

- Lead can affect children's brains and developing nervous systems, causing reduced IQ, learning disabilities, and behavioral problems. Lead is also harmful to adults.
  - Lead in dust is the most common way people are exposed to lead. People can also get lead in their bodies from lead in soil or paint chips. Lead dust is often invisible.
  - Lead-based paint was used in more than 38 million homes until it was banned for residential use in 1978.
  - Projects that disturb painted surfaces can create dust and endanger you and your family. Don't let this happen to you. Follow the practices described in this pamphlet to protect you and your family.
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# LEAD AND YOUR HEALTH

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## **Lead is especially dangerous to children under six years of age.**

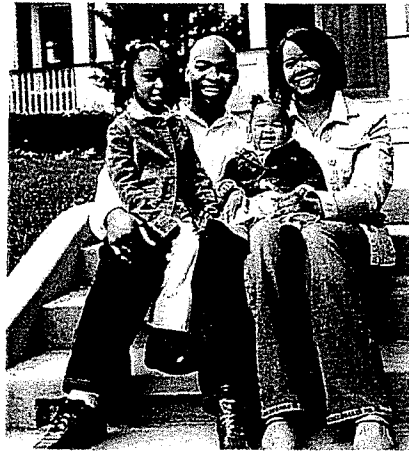
Lead can affect children's brains and developing nervous systems, causing:

- Reduced IQ and learning disabilities.
- Behavior problems.

## **Even children who appear healthy can have dangerous levels of lead in their bodies.**

Lead is also harmful to adults. In adults, low levels of lead can pose many dangers, including:

- High blood pressure and hypertension.
- Pregnant women exposed to lead can transfer lead to their fetuses. Lead gets into the body when it is swallowed or inhaled.
- People, especially children, can swallow lead dust as they eat, play, and do other normal hand-to-mouth activities.
- People may also breathe in lead dust or fumes if they disturb lead-based paint. People who sand, scrape, burn, brush, blast or otherwise disturb lead-based paint risk unsafe exposure to lead.



## **What should I do if I am concerned about my family's exposure to lead?**

- A blood test is the only way to find out if you or a family member already has lead poisoning. Call your doctor or local health department to arrange for a blood test.
- Call your local health department for advice on reducing and eliminating exposures to lead inside and outside your home, child care facility or school.
- Always use lead-safe work practices when renovation or repair will disturb painted surfaces.

For more information about the health effects of exposure to lead, visit the EPA lead website at [epa.gov/lead/pubs/leadinfo](http://epa.gov/lead/pubs/leadinfo) or call 1-800-424-LEAD (5323).

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## **There are other things you can do to protect your family every day.**

- Regularly clean floors, window sills, and other surfaces.
- Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers, and toys often.
- Make sure children eat a healthy, nutritious diet consistent with the USDA's dietary guidelines, that helps protect children from the effects of lead.
- Wipe off shoes before entering the house.

# WHERE DOES THE LEAD COME FROM?

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## **Dust is the main problem.**

The most common way to get lead in the body is from dust. Lead dust comes from deteriorating lead-based paint and lead-contaminated soil that gets tracked into your home. This dust may accumulate to unsafe levels. Then, normal hand to-mouth activities, like playing and eating (especially in young children), move that dust from surfaces like floors and window sills into the body.

## **Home renovation creates dust.**

Common renovation activities like sanding, cutting, and demolition can create hazardous lead dust and chips.

## **Proper work practices protect you from the dust.**

The key to protecting yourself and your family during a renovation, repair or painting job is to use lead-safe work practices such as containing dust inside the work area, using dust-minimizing work methods, and conducting a careful cleanup, as described in this pamphlet.

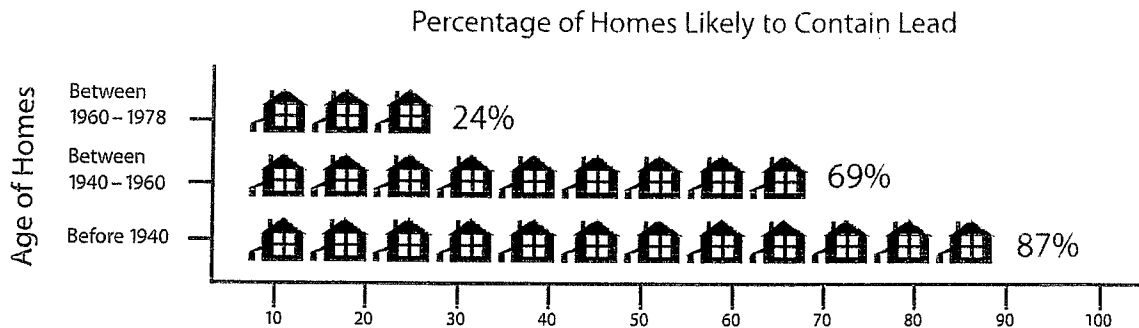
## **Other sources of lead.**

Remember, lead can also come from outside soil, your water, or household items (such as lead-glazed pottery and lead crystal). Contact the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD (5323) for more information on these sources.





# CHECKING YOUR HOME FOR LEAD-BASED PAINT



## Older homes, child care facilities, and schools are more likely to contain lead-based paint.

Homes may be single-family homes or apartments. They may be private, government-assisted, or public housing. Schools are preschools and kindergarten classrooms. They may be urban, suburban, or rural.

### You have the following options:

**You may decide to assume your home, child care facility, or school contains lead.** Especially in older homes and buildings, you may simply want to assume lead-based paint is present and follow the lead-safe work practices described in this brochure during the renovation, repair, or painting job.

**You can hire a certified professional to check for lead-based paint.**

These professionals are certified risk assessors or inspectors, and can determine if your home has lead or lead hazards.

- A certified inspector or risk assessor can conduct an inspection telling you whether your home, or a portion of your home, has lead-based paint and where it is located. This will tell you the areas in your home where lead-safe work practices are needed.
- A certified risk assessor can conduct a risk assessment telling you if your home currently has any lead hazards from lead in paint, dust, or soil. The risk assessor can also tell you what actions to take to address any hazards.
- For help finding a certified risk assessor or inspector, call the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)**.

You may also have a certified renovator test the surfaces or components being disturbed for lead by using a lead test kit or by taking paint chip samples and sending them to an EPA-recognized testing laboratory. Test kits must be EPA-recognized and are available at hardware stores. They include detailed instructions for their use.



## FOR PROPERTY OWNERS

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**You have the ultimate responsibility for the safety of your family, tenants, or children in your care.**

This means properly preparing for the renovation and keeping persons out of the work area (see p. 8). It also means ensuring the contractor uses lead-safe work practices.

Federal law requires that contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb painted surfaces in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 be certified and follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination.

**Make sure your contractor is certified, and can explain clearly the details of the job and how the contractor will minimize lead hazards during the work.**

- You can verify that a contractor is certified by checking EPA's website at [epa.gov/getleadsafe](http://epa.gov/getleadsafe) or by calling the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)**. You can also ask to see a copy of the contractor's firm certification.
- Ask if the contractor is trained to perform lead-safe work practices and to see a copy of their training certificate.
- Ask them what lead-safe methods they will use to set up and perform the job in your home, child care facility or school.
- Ask for references from at least three recent jobs involving homes built before 1978, and speak to each personally.

**Always make sure the contract is clear about how the work will be set up, performed, and cleaned.**

- Share the results of any previous lead tests with the contractor.
- You should specify in the contract that they follow the work practices described on pages 9 and 10 of this brochure.
- The contract should specify which parts of your home are part of the work area and specify which lead-safe work practices will be used in those areas. Remember, your contractor should confine dust and debris to the work area and should minimize spreading that dust to other areas of the home.
- The contract should also specify that the contractor will clean the work area, verify that it was cleaned adequately, and re-clean it if necessary.

**If you think a worker is not doing what he is supposed to do or is doing something that is unsafe, you should:**

- Direct the contractor to comply with regulatory and contract requirements.
- Call your local health or building department, or
- Call EPA's hotline **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)**.

If your property receives housing assistance from HUD (or a state or local agency that uses HUD funds), you must follow the requirements of HUD's Lead-Safe Housing Rule and the ones described in this pamphlet.

# FOR TENANTS AND FAMILIES OF CHILDREN UNDER SIX YEARS OF AGE IN CHILD CARE FACILITIES AND SCHOOLS

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**You play an important role ensuring the ultimate safety of your family.**

This means properly preparing for the renovation and staying out of the work area (see p. 8).

Federal law requires that contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb painted surfaces in homes built before 1978 and in child care facilities and schools built before 1978, that a child under six years of age visits regularly, to be certified and follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination.

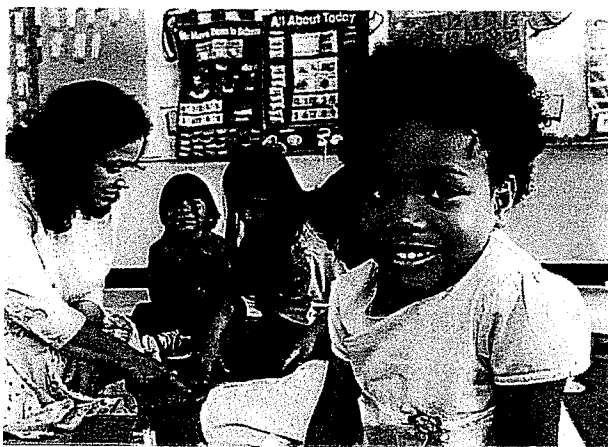
The law requires anyone hired to renovate, repair, or do painting preparation work on a property built before 1978 to follow the steps described on pages 9 and 10 unless the area where the work will be done contains no lead-based paint.



**If you think a worker is not doing what he is supposed to do or is doing something that is unsafe, you should:**

- Contact your landlord.
- Call your local health or building department, or
- Call EPA's hotline 1-800-424-LEAD (5323).

If you are concerned about lead hazards left behind after the job is over, you can check the work yourself (see page 10).



# PREPARING FOR A RENOVATION

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**The work areas should not be accessible to occupants while the work occurs.**

The rooms or areas where work is being done may need to be blocked off or sealed with plastic sheeting to contain any dust that is generated. Therefore, the contained area may not be available to you until the work in that room or area is complete, cleaned thoroughly, and the containment has been removed. Because you may not have access to some areas during the renovation, you should plan accordingly.

## **You may need:**

- Alternative bedroom, bathroom, and kitchen arrangements if work is occurring in those areas of your home.
- A safe place for pets because they too can be poisoned by lead and can track lead dust into other areas of the home.
- A separate pathway for the contractor from the work area to the outside in order to bring materials in and out of the home. Ideally, it should not be through the same entrance that your family uses.
- A place to store your furniture. All furniture and belongings may have to be moved from the work area while the work is being done. Items that can't be moved, such as cabinets, should be wrapped in plastic.
- To turn off forced-air heating and air conditioning systems while the work is being done. This prevents dust from spreading through vents from the work area to the rest of your home. Consider how this may affect your living arrangements.

**You may even want to move out of your home temporarily while all or part of the work is being done.**

**Child care facilities and schools may want to consider alternative accommodations for children and access to necessary facilities.**



## DURING THE WORK

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Federal law requires contractors that are hired to perform renovation, repair and painting projects in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 that disturb painted surfaces to be certified and follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination.

The work practices the contractor must follow include these three simple procedures, described below:

**1. Contain the work area.** The area must be contained so that dust and debris do not escape from that area. Warning signs must be put up and plastic or other impermeable material and tape must be used as appropriate to:

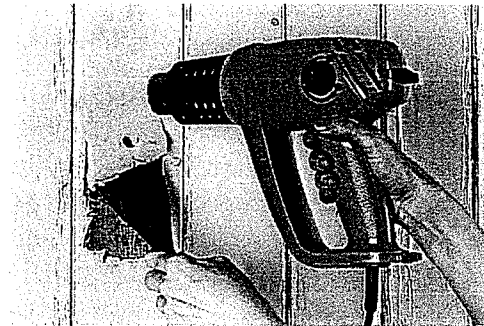
- Cover the floors and any furniture that cannot be moved.
- Seal off doors and heating and cooling system vents.
- For exterior renovations, cover the ground and, in some instances, erect vertical containment or equivalent extra precautions in containing the work area.

These work practices will help prevent dust or debris from getting outside the work area.

**2. Avoid renovation methods that generate large amounts of lead-contaminated dust.** Some methods generate so much lead-contaminated dust that their use is prohibited.

They are:

- Open flame burning or torching.
- Sanding, grinding, planing, needle gunning, or blasting with power tools and equipment not equipped with a shroud and HEPA vacuum attachment.
- Using a heat gun at temperatures greater than 1100°F.



There is no way to eliminate dust, but some renovation methods make less dust than others. Contractors may choose to use various methods to minimize dust generation, including using water to mist areas before sanding or scraping; scoring paint before separating components; and prying and pulling apart components instead of breaking them.

**3. Clean up thoroughly.** The work area should be cleaned up daily to keep it as clean as possible. When all the work is done, the area must be cleaned up using special cleaning methods before taking down any plastic that isolates the work area from the rest of the home. The special cleaning methods should include:

- Using a HEPA vacuum to clean up dust and debris on all surfaces, followed by
- Wet wiping and wet mopping with plenty of rinse water.

When the final cleaning is done, look around. There should be no dust, paint chips, or debris in the work area. If you see any dust, paint chips, or debris, the area must be re-cleaned.

## FOR PROPERTY OWNERS: AFTER THE WORK IS DONE

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When all the work is finished, you will want to know if your home, child care facility, or school where children under six attend has been cleaned up properly.

### **EPA Requires Cleaning Verification.**

In addition to using allowable work practices and working in a lead-safe manner, EPA's RRP rule requires contractors to follow a specific cleaning protocol. The protocol requires the contractor to use disposable cleaning cloths to wipe the floor and other surfaces of the work area and compare these cloths to an EPA-provided cleaning verification card to determine if the work area was adequately cleaned. EPA research has shown that following the use of lead-safe work practices with the cleaning verification protocol will effectively reduce lead-dust hazards.

### **Lead-Dust Testing.**

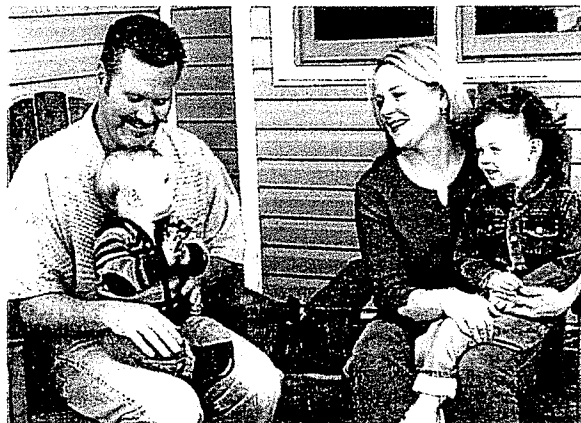
EPA believes that if you use a certified and trained renovation contractor who follows the LRRP rule by using lead-safe work practices and the cleaning protocol after the job is finished, lead-dust hazards will be effectively reduced. If, however, you are interested in having lead-dust testing done at the completion of your job, outlined below is some helpful information.

#### **What is a lead-dust test?**

- Lead-dust tests are wipe samples sent to a laboratory for analysis. You will get a report specifying the levels of lead found after your specific job.

#### **How and when should I ask my contractor about lead-dust testing?**

- Contractors are not required by EPA to conduct lead-dust testing. However, if you want testing, EPA recommends testing be conducted by a lead professional. To locate a lead professional who will perform an evaluation near you, visit EPA's website at [epa.gov/lead/pubs/locate](http://epa.gov/lead/pubs/locate) or contact the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)**.
- If you decide that you want lead-dust testing, it is a good idea to specify in your contract, before the start of the job, that a lead-dust test is to be done for your job and who will do the testing, as well as whether re-cleaning will be required based on the results of the test.
- You may do the testing yourself. If you choose to do the testing, some EPA-recognized lead laboratories will send you a kit that allows you to collect samples and send them back to the laboratory for analysis. Contact the National Lead Information Center for lists of EPA-recognized testing laboratories.



## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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You may need additional information on how to protect yourself and your children while a job is going on in your home, your building, or child care facility.

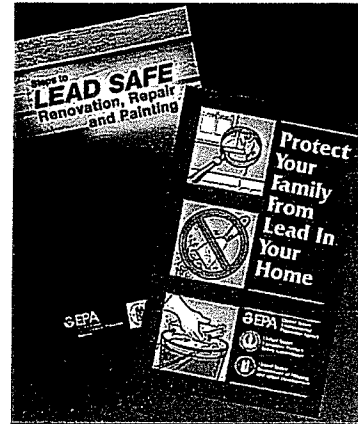
The National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)** or [epa.gov/lead/nlic](http://epa.gov/lead/nlic) can tell you how to contact your state, local, and/or tribal programs or get general information about lead poisoning prevention.

- State and tribal lead poisoning prevention or environmental protection programs can provide information about lead regulations and potential sources of financial aid for reducing lead hazards. If your state or local government has requirements more stringent than those described in this pamphlet, you must follow those requirements.
- Local building code officials can tell you the regulations that apply to the renovation work that you are planning.
- State, county, and local health departments can provide information about local programs, including assistance for lead-poisoned children and advice on ways to get your home checked for lead.



The National Lead Information Center can also provide a variety of resource materials, including the following guides to lead-safe work practices. Many of these materials are also available at [epa.gov/lead/pubs/brochure](http://epa.gov/lead/pubs/brochure)

- Steps to Lead Safe Renovation, Repair and Painting.
- Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home
- Lead in Your Home: A Parent's Reference Guide



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For the hearing impaired, call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 to access any of the phone numbers in this brochure.

# EPA CONTACTS

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## EPA Regional Offices

EPA addresses residential lead hazards through several different regulations. EPA requires training and certification for conducting abatement and renovations, education about hazards associated with renovations, disclosure about known lead paint and lead hazards in housing, and sets lead-paint hazard standards.

Your Regional EPA Office can provide further information regarding lead safety and lead protection programs at [epa.gov/lead](http://epa.gov/lead).

### Region 1

(Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)  
Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 1  
Suite 1100  
One Congress Street  
Boston, MA 02114-2023  
(888) 372-7341

### Region 2

(New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)  
Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 2  
2890 Woodbridge Avenue  
Building 205, Mail Stop 225  
Edison, NJ 08837-3679  
(732) 321-6671

### Region 3

(Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, DC, West Virginia)  
Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 3  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA  
19103-2029  
(215) 814-5000

### Region 4

(Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)  
Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960  
(404) 562-9900

### Region 5

(Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin)  
Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, IL 60604-3507  
(312) 886-6003

### Region 6

(Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas)  
Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue,  
12th Floor  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733  
(214) 665-7577

### Region 7

(Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska)  
Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 7  
901 N. 5th Street  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
(913) 551-7003

### Region 8

(Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)  
Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 8  
1595 Wynkoop Street  
Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 312-6312

### Region 9

(Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada)  
Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 947-8021

### Region 10

(Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington)  
Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101-1128  
(206) 553-1200



## OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES

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### **CPSC**

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) protects the public from the unreasonable risk of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. CPSC warns the public and private sectors to reduce exposure to lead and increase consumer awareness. Contact CPSC for further information regarding regulations and consumer product safety.

### **CPSC**

4330 East West Highway  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
Hotline 1-(800) 638-2772  
[cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov)

### **CDC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) assists state and local childhood lead poisoning prevention programs to provide a scientific basis for policy decisions, and to ensure that health issues are addressed in decisions about housing and the environment. Contact CDC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program for additional materials and links on the topic of lead.

### **CDC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch**

4770 Buford Highway, MS F-40  
Atlanta, GA 30341  
(770) 488-3300  
[cdc.gov/nceh/lead](http://cdc.gov/nceh/lead)

### **HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control**

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides funds to state and local governments to develop cost-effective ways to reduce lead-based paint hazards in America's privately-owned low-income housing. In addition, the office enforces the rule on disclosure of known lead paint and lead hazards in housing, and HUD's lead safety regulations in HUD-assisted housing, provides public outreach and technical assistance, and conducts technical studies to help protect children and their families from health and safety hazards in the home. Contact the HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control for information on lead regulations, outreach efforts, and lead hazard control research and outreach grant programs.

### **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control  
451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 8236  
Washington, DC 20410-3000  
HUD's Lead Regulations Hotline  
(202) 402-7698  
[hud.gov/offices/lead/](http://hud.gov/offices/lead/)

# SAMPLE PRE-RENOVATION FORM

This sample form may be used by renovation firms to document compliance with the Federal pre-renovation education and renovation, repair, and painting regulations.

## Occupant Confirmation

### Pamphlet Receipt

- I have received a copy of the lead hazard information pamphlet informing me of the potential risk of the lead hazard exposure from renovation activity to be performed in my dwelling unit. I received this pamphlet before the work began.

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Printed Name of Owner-occupant

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Signature of Owner-occupant

Signature Date

## Renovator's Self Certification Option (for tenant-occupied dwellings only)

Instructions to Renovator: If the lead hazard information pamphlet was delivered but a tenant signature was not obtainable, you may check the appropriate box below.

- Declined** – I certify that I have made a good faith effort to deliver the lead hazard information pamphlet to the rental dwelling unit listed below at the date and time indicated and that the occupant declined to sign the confirmation of receipt. I further certify that I have left a copy of the pamphlet at the unit with the occupant.
- Unavailable for signature** – I certify that I have made a good faith effort to deliver the lead hazard information pamphlet to the rental dwelling unit listed below and that the occupant was unavailable to sign the confirmation of receipt. I further certify that I have left a copy of the pamphlet at the unit by sliding it under the door or by (fill in how pamphlet was left).

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Printed Name of Person Certifying Delivery

Attempted Delivery Date

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Signature of Person Certifying Lead Pamphlet Delivery

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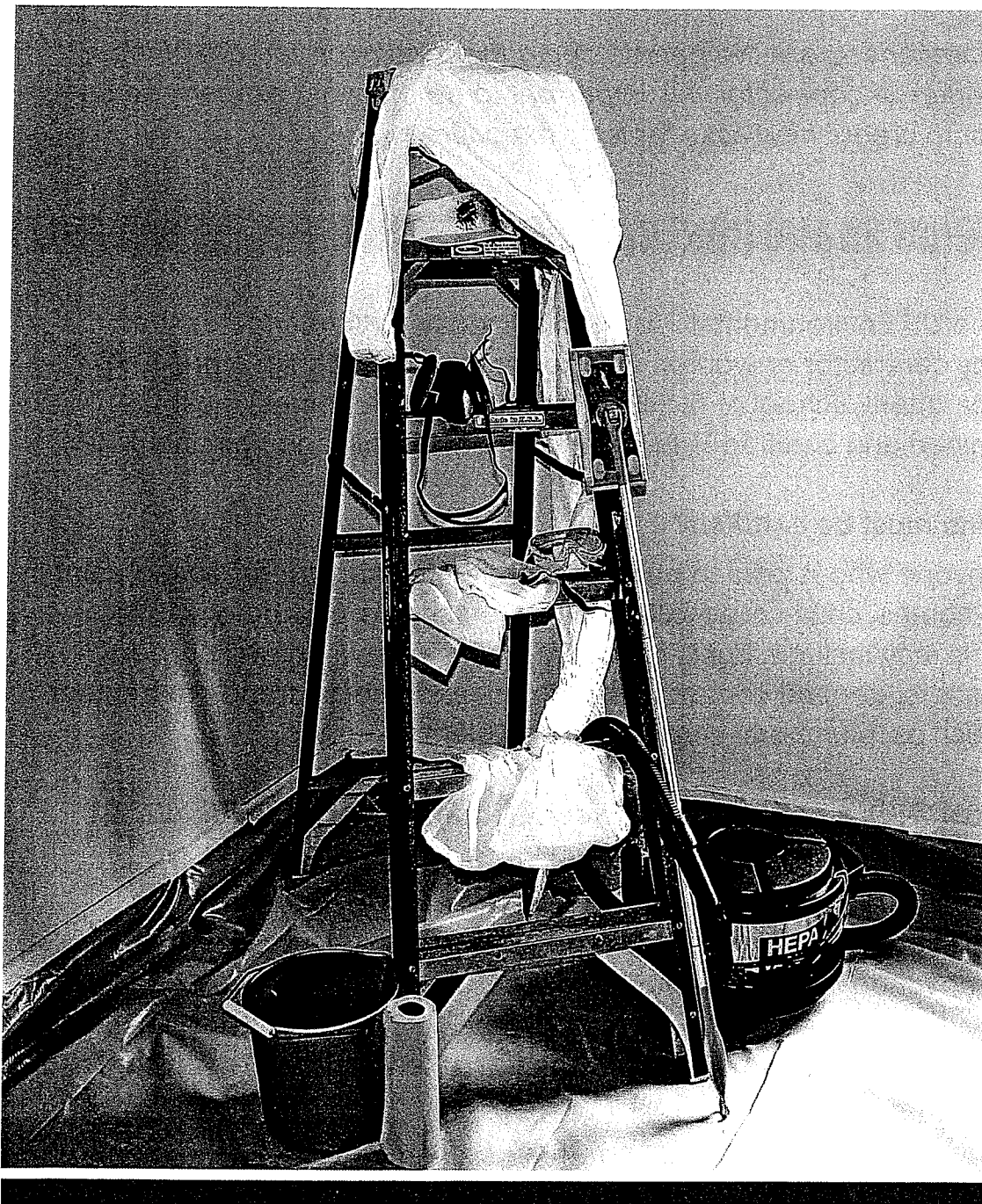
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Unit Address

**Note Regarding Mailing Option** — As an alternative to delivery in person, you may mail the lead hazard information pamphlet to the owner and/or tenant. Pamphlet must be mailed at least seven days before renovation. Mailing must be documented by a certificate of mailing from the post office.

# What You **Need to Know** About **Working with** **Lead-Based Paint**



*Homes or apartments built before 1978 may contain lead paint. Exposure to lead-paint dust or chips can cause serious health problems. Children and pregnant women are at higher risk.*

*If you own rental property, it is your responsibility to repair chipping or peeling lead painted surfaces. It is important to assess the need for repairs every year or when a new occupant moves in. The owner is responsible for all monitoring and maintenance activities.*

*If you rent and have peeling, chipping paint, you should contact your landlord about repairing the painted surfaces.*

*Whether you are the person doing the repairs or you are hiring a worker or contractor, it is important to do the work properly so as not to create new risks for lead exposure.*

## **WORKERS AND CONTRACTORS**

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandates that any contractor or worker who performs renovation in a pre-1978 apartment, school or facility (including private homes) must be trained and certified in EPA Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP).

### **Who must be certified?**

Anyone who is paid to perform work that disturbs lead-based paint in homes, child-care facilities and pre-schools built before 1978. This may include, but is not limited to, residential rental property owners, general contractors, painters and special trade contractors (such as, plumbers, carpenters, and electricians).

### **How does a person become certified and where can I find a list of certified firms?**

Information about EPA-approved training providers and certified renovators is available online at [www.epa.gov/lead/renovation-repair-and-painting-program](http://www.epa.gov/lead/renovation-repair-and-painting-program).

### **What activities are subject to the Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program?**

Any activity that disturbs more than six square feet of lead paint

per room for interior activities or more than 20 square feet on any exterior surface. US EPA regulations require that prior to starting work, contractors must provide occupants with a copy of the Renovate Right pamphlet, available in English and Spanish (see more information at end of brochure).

Federal regulations also require using EPA-certified contractors to perform most lead remediation work ordered by government agencies. The owner or contractor needs to clear the remediation method with the agency before beginning the project.

## HOMEOWNERS

As a homeowner, you can choose to do the work yourself. Only those people who are paid to do the work are subject to the federal rule and are mandated to receive the proper training. But anyone who does the work must **ALWAYS** use lead safe work practices. During the work, you might stir up dust or create fumes containing lead. This can be very dangerous for adults, children and pets. Always use a method that creates the least amount of dust and fumes.

### **IF YOU ARE GOING TO DISTURB LEAD-BASED PAINT FOLLOW THESE PRACTICES:**

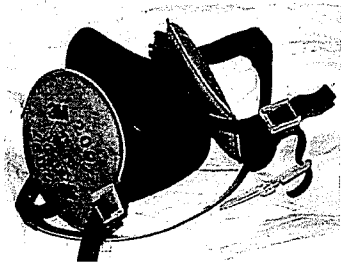
- Children and pregnant women must not do any lead paint removal work, and they should stay out of the work area until clean-up is complete. (See “Clean-Up” section.) If you’re not sure you can clean up every day, arrangements for temporary living quarters should be made.
- Work in one room at a time, and seal off the work area from the rest of the house, including any heating or ventilation ducts, using heavy plastic sheets (6-mil thickness).



### **What you should know about lead testing...**

Children who may have been exposed to lead-based paint should have a blood test to see if they have elevated blood levels. All children one and two years of age, or who may have been exposed, should be tested. Other children under six years of age, or who may have been exposed, should be tested if their doctors think they are at risk.

- EVERYTHING in the room (furniture, rugs, carpets, floors, bedding, drapes, dishware, food, toys, etc.) must be removed, or covered with TWO sheets of plastic (6-mil) and all the seams taped. Plastic used to cover the floor should be secured to the wall or baseboard with duct tape.
- Wear disposable coveralls, shoes, hair covering, goggles and a properly fitting respirator.



- Only HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) respirators will filter lead dust and fumes. Simple paper or fabric dust masks will NOT protect you from lead dust.
  - To avoid ingesting lead, do not eat, drink or smoke while working.
- Clean up carefully. Before leaving the work area, dispose of coveralls, and remove dust from your clothes with a HEPA filtered vacuum cleaner. Shower as soon as you can, so you do not spread lead dust around your home or elsewhere.

## **METHODS TO REDUCE OR REMOVE EXPOSURE TO LEAD-BASED PAINT:**

There are many ways to reduce the hazards of lead-based paint – but **SOME METHODS OF REMOVING PAINT ACTUALLY INCREASE THE RISK OF LEAD EXPOSURE.** It's important to pick the safest method for your project. The goal is to reduce the hazard while creating as little lead dust as possible.

### **How to make your home lead-safe:**

#### **'Control Dust'**

To control lead dust, regularly check all painted surfaces of your home for chipping or peeling. Look carefully at painted areas that rub together, like doors, windows, and stairways. If you see dust and chips, wet clean with damp paper towels or mop often. Other dust control methods for friction surfaces include carpeting stairways and installing window wells or window track liners.





### **'Stabilize Paint'**

Paint film stabilization is a way to temporarily fix loose paint by creating a smooth surface that generates less lead dust. First, wet the area with a spray bottle and water before scraping or sanding. Then, prime and re-paint, and clean up thoroughly (for more detail, see EPA resources).

### **How to make your repairs last:**

#### **'Create a Durable Barrier'**

One way of reducing exposure to lead paint is to cover the surface with a new surface—often known as enclosure. This can be achieved by putting up drywall or by covering windowsills with vinyl or aluminum, for example. This doesn't require the removal of the lead paint, so this is often the easiest solution. Be careful sealing all edges, joints and seams to create a dust-tight seal. If the new surface is ever removed or damaged, the lead problem returns. Materials used to enclose lead-painted surfaces should be durable and fire resistant, such as sheet rock or drywall, aluminum, vinyl siding, wood paneling, new flooring, or tile.

#### **'Use a Coating that Lasts'**

Adhesive coating, also known as encapsulation, is a technique that bonds materials to the existing painted surface. It is more than just a coat of paint, in that the thick coating is bonded to the lead paint. It is important to follow product instructions exactly to be sure that a strong, long lasting bond is created.

#### **'Replace those Old Parts'**

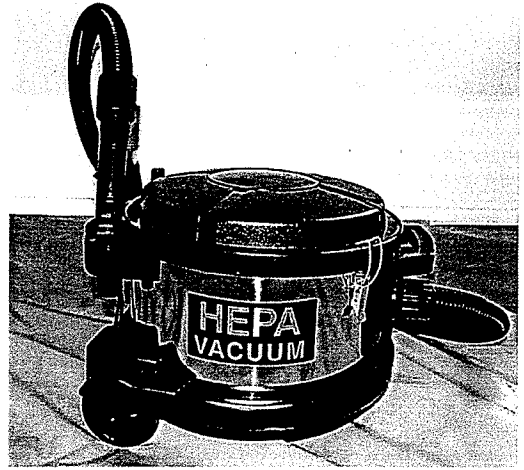
Replacement is the process of removing building components and installing new components that do not contain lead. This method is a common option when replacing components such as windows, doors, railings, cabinets, and trim.



## 'Remove Old Paint'

This technique is a complete removal of all leaded paint from the underlying surface. There are several ways to remove lead-based paint:

- **Wet scraping:** surfaces are misted with water while using hand scrapers to dislodge the paint
- **Wet sanding or power sanding with a HEPA filter vacuum:** wet sanding sponges are used to minimize dust or an electric sander is equipped with a HEPA filtered vacuum attachment
- **Heat removal:** using a low temperature heat gun below 1100°F, followed by hand scraping



NEVER use these methods: Open flame burning, machine sanding without a HEPA attachment, abrasive sand blasting, and power



washing without a method to trap water and paint chips.

## CLEAN-UP

It is very important to do a proper cleaning of lead dust and debris after any work is done. Cleaning ensures that lead hazards are not left behind at the end of the day or end of the project. The work areas should be wet cleaned daily, by misting and collecting debris in 6-mil plastic bags followed by using wet cloths

or wet mops on all surfaces. Homeowners can dispose of debris along with household trash.

At the end of the project, use a HEPA-filtered vacuum on all surfaces (floors, walls, ceilings, woodwork, carpeting, furniture). Then wet mop hardwood surfaces and clean other surfaces with wet cloths. The final step is to do another HEPA vacuuming of the entire work area.

## **MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE**

It is important that all occupants and owners keep checking all lead-painted surfaces to make sure that temporary controls are working. Make necessary repairs to ensure they stay in a safe condition.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

*Call the New York State Health Department  
Center for Environmental Health:*

**518-402-7600 or 1-800-458-1158**

*Or visit the New York State  
Department of Health Website:*

**[www.health.ny.gov/environmental/lead/](http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/lead/)**

*Other useful resources for Homeowners or Contractors*

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Lead Webpage:

**[www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead)**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Renovate Right Pamphlet:

**[www.epa.gov/lead/renovate-right-important-lead-hazard-information-families-child-care-providers-and-schools](http://www.epa.gov/lead/renovate-right-important-lead-hazard-information-families-child-care-providers-and-schools)**

New York State Department of Labor:

**[www.labor.ny.gov/home/](http://www.labor.ny.gov/home/)**

*Call your local health department for additional information or for help in identifying qualified contractors experienced in lead removal.*

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