

## LEAD-BASED PAINT SAFETY, HOME REPAIR & CLEANING GUIDE

Based on EPA & HUD Lead-Safe Work Practices (February 2007)

### LEAD POISONING:

Lead in dust, soil & paint chips can poison children.

Children under age 6 should be tested for lead poisoning.

Most homes built before 1978 have some lead-based paint.

Lead-based paint can become hazardous when it deteriorates or is disturbed by renovations.

Lead hazards can also come from impact from doors, friction from windows, old vinyl mini-blinds, and lead solder in copper pipes.

### FEDERAL DISCLOSURE & PRE-RENOVATION LAWS:

Federal law requires all contractors to give owners and occupants the brochure "Protect Your Family From Lead In Your Home" before renovating or disturbing paint in homes built before 1978.

Owners of homes built before 1978 must also give this brochure and any other information on lead-based paint or lead hazards to renters or buyers before renting or selling the homes.

### THREE PRINCIPLES OF LEAD-SAFETY ARE:

- WORK SMART
- WORK WET &
- WORK CLEAN

LEAD-SAFE WORK IS NOT EXPENSIVE. IT JUST TAKES A LITTLE TIME TO PREPARE & DO THE WORK RIGHT!

LEAD-SAFE WORK PRACTICES & TRAINING ARE REQUIRED FOR HOMES BUILT BEFORE 1978 THAT RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDS, SUCH AS SECTION 8...

LEAD SAFETY IS A GOOD IDEA IN ALL HOMES BUILT BEFORE 1978.

### WORK SMART

DON'T EAT, DRINK OR SMOKE IN THE WORK AREA.

WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN.

WEAR SAFETY GOGGLES, A HAT & COVERALLS.

CLEAN BOOTS & CLOTHES.

CLEAN AS YOU WORK.

## PROTECT OCCUPANTS

REMOVE OR COVER FURNITURE & RUGS

COVER FLOORS & GROUND WITH HEAVY PLASTIC AT LEAST 5 FEET FROM THE WORK AREA INSIDE & 10 FEET ON THE EXTERIOR.

TURN OFF THE HVAC SYSTEM & SEAL WINDOWS, DOORS & VENTS.

## WORK WET

AVOID DRY SCRAPING OR SANDING

MIST PAINT WITH WATER AS YOU HAND SCRAPE.

AROUND ELECTRICAL OUTLETS, USE A WET SPONGE SANDER OR RAG TO WET PAINT.

## WORK CLEAN

DON'T CREATE DUST.

You should not generate so much dust to require a respirator, unless you totally isolate the work area, use special equipment, and have lead training. OSHA also requires employers to train workers for respirators.

DON'T USE POWER SANDERS OR GRINDERS UNLESS YOU ATTACH A HEPA VACUUM.

DON'T USE UNCONTROLLED ABRASIVE SAND OR WATER BLASTING.

DON'T USE OPEN FLAME OR HIGH HEAT GUNS >1,100 degrees F.

ALSO, DON'T USE METHYLENE CHLORIDE PAINT STRIPPERS (which can cause cancer).

CLEAN UP CAREFULLY (use these 5 steps):

1) WRAP DEBRIS IN HEAVY PLASTIC & TAPE TO SEAL IN PAINT DUST.

2) MIST & CLEAN FROM TOP DOWN TO REMOVE ANY PAINT DUST & CHIPS BEFORE FOLDING UP PLASTIC ON FLOOR.

3) HEPA VACUUM TO CLEAN YOUR WORK CLOTHES, SILLS, FLOORS & ALL HORIZONTAL SURFACES IN THE WORK AREA.

4) MOP THE FLOOR WITH A CLEAN STRING MOP, DETERGENT AND **LOTS OF WATER**. Change the water constantly. Flush dirty water down the toilet.

5) HEPA VACUUM THE FLOOR AGAIN.

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY - DON'T TAKE LEAD DUST HOME

DISPOSE OF SUIT, HAT & BOOT COVERS.

Or changes clothes at work & keep dirty clothes in a bag.

Or CLEAN BOOTS & HEPA VACUUM CLOTHES AT WORK.

At home, wash work clothes separately.

WASH HANDS AND FACE AT WORK & SHOWER AS SOON AS YOU GET HOME.

PREVENT LEAD POISONING WITH GOOD MAINTENANCE:

- ◆ Use lead safety when repainting.
- ◆ Do not dry scrape or sand old paint.
- ◆ Mist and wet scrape onto plastic.
- ◆ Mop floors & wash window sills regularly.
- ◆ HEPA vacuum carpets.
- ◆ Repair problems that cause paint to deteriorate.
- ◆ Adjust doors & windows to stop rubbing & chipping paint.
- ◆ Cover window troughs with vinyl or aluminum.
- ◆ Make floors & window sills smooth & easy to clean.
- ◆ Replace old vinyl mini-blinds with lead-free blinds.
- ◆ Cover paths & bare soil within 3 feet from the house with mulch or pavers.

Get free lead safety training from Durham Affordable Housing Coalition,  
[www.dahc.org](http://www.dahc.org), 683-1185x26

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

NC Lead-Based Paint Preventive Maintenance Program

888-774-0071

[http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/ehs/children\\_health/index.html](http://www.deh.enr.state.nc.us/ehs/children_health/index.html)

**800-424-LEAD**

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

[www.hud.gov/lea](http://www.hud.gov/lea)