



LEAD PAINT ABATEMENT CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTORS

Lead is a toxic metal that was used for many years in paint and other products found in and around our homes, and may cause a range of health effects, from behavioral problems and learning disabilities, to seizures and death. Children six years old and under are most at risk. The most common sources of lead poisoning include: deteriorating lead-based paint, lead contaminated dust, and lead contaminated residential soil.

In 2008, the EPA issued a rule requiring the use of lead safe practices and other actions aimed at preventing lead poisoning. The State of Minnesota subsequently enacted a law, effective August 1, 2011, requiring licensed residential contractors performing renovation, repair, and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978, to be certified and to follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination.

What should you, as a contractor, know about this new state law:

- State law requires licensed residential contractors to be certified and requires individuals to be trained in the use of lead-safe work practices.
- To become certified, licensed residential contractors must submit an application and fee payment to EPA. You can find this information at: <http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/lscp-renovation.htm>. EPA has up to 90 days after receiving a complete application for firm certification to approve or disapprove the application.
- Individuals wishing to become certified renovators must take training from an EPA-accredited training provider.
- The rule generally does not apply to minor maintenance or repair activities where less than six square feet of lead-based paint is disturbed in a room or where less than 20 square feet of lead-based paint is disturbed on the exterior, but this does not include window replacement, demolition, or prohibited practices.
- ***As a licensed residential contractor, you will be required to submit your firm certification number and expiration date at the time you apply for a permit from the city. Without this information, the city cannot process your application.***

Should you have any questions or need more information, please visit <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/lead/prof/index.html>.