

## Examples of Lead-Safe Work Practices

Use the following methods to avoid creating lead-based paint hazards during on-site work that disturbs paint that may contain lead.

- a. Prevent the spread of lead-contaminated dust by limiting access to the work areas to workers only until final cleanup is complete and have workers remove protective clothing such as gloves and shoes before leaving the work area.
- b. Cover the work area including doorways and sealing floors, closets and cabinets with heavy-duty polyethylene plastic secured with duct tape or equivalent.
- c. For exterior surfaces, secure heavy-duty polyethylene plastic on the ground from the foundation extending 10 feet beyond the perimeter of the work area.
- d. Shut off the heating ventilation, and cooling system and over heating, ventilation and cooling registers with heavy-duty polyethylene plastic secured with duct tape or the equivalent.
- e. Protect workers by providing necessary protective equipment, training and cleanup equipment and by not allowing eating, drinking, chewing gum or tobacco, or smoking in the work area.
- f. Protect occupants, which may include temporary relation as necessary.
- g. Protect occupants' belongings by covering with heavy-duty polyethylene plastic secured with duct tape or the equivalent or by removing them from the work area.
- h. Mist interior painted surfaces before disturbing, and hand scrap all loose paint, wallpaper and plaster.
- i. Wet sweep, collect and contain visible debris and plastic sheeting in a secure container.
- j. Perform specialized cleaning upon completion of work to remove residual dust and debris.
- k. Remove all materials, tools and contained debris from the work area and the residential housing unit upon completion of maintenance activities.

Here are prohibited methods of removing lead-based paint:

- a. Stripping paint on-site with methylene chloride-based solutions.
- b. Torch or flame burning.
- c. Heating paint with a heat gun above 1,100 degrees Fahrenheit.
- d. Covering with new paint or wallpaper unless all readily accessible lead-based paint has been removed.
- e. Uncontrolled abrasive blasting, machine sanding or grinding, except when used with High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) exhaust control that removes particles of 0.3 microns or larger from the air at ninety-nine and seven-tenths percent (99.7%) or greater efficiency.
- f. Uncontrolled waterblasting.
- g. Dry scraping, unless used in conjunction with heat guns or around electrical outlets, or when treating no more than two square feet on interior surfaces, or no more than 20 square feet on exterior surfaces.

For more information about lead-safe work practices, please contact the  
Children's Environmental Health Branch  
N.C. DENR – Division of Environmental Health  
1632 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1632  
(888) 774-0071 (toll free hotline) or (919) 715-3293  
Fax: (919) 715-4739