

Five steps to lead safety

Unless testing has shown that a building does not contain lead paint, assume that all homes built before 1978 contain lead paint and require lead-safe work practices

1. Protect your family, your tenants, and your neighbors.

Keep children and pregnant women out of the work area.

2. Prepare the work area.

Keep dust inside the work area.

3. Protect yourself from dust and debris.

Wear protective gear.

Don't eat, drink, or smoke in the work area.

4. Work wet.

To create as little dust as possible, choose wet methods.

5. Work clean.

Clean up in lead-safe ways.

Dispose of dust and debris in lead-safe ways.

To find your regional EPA office, see www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/leadoff1.htm

This program was developed by the University of Connecticut's Healthy Environments for Children Initiative

www.hec.uconn.edu



in partnership with the

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www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Lead/lead_program.htm



Keeping Connecticut Healthy

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www.epa.gov/lead

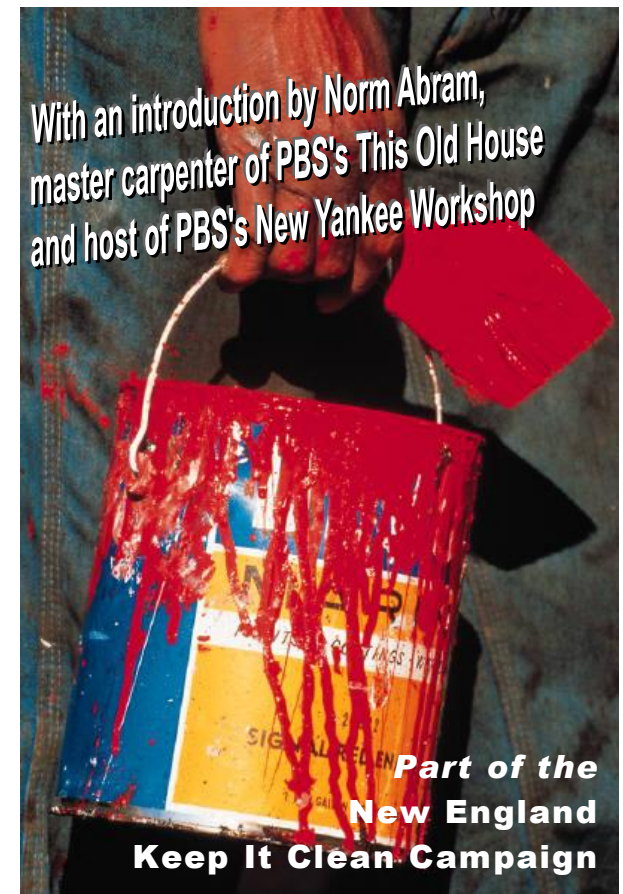


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Don't Spread Lead

A do-it-yourselfer's guide to preventing lead poisoning by working lead-safe



Are you getting ready to fix up an older home?

Maybe you're planning to paint a room for a new baby. Or maybe you're going to repair a door that sticks.

If your home was built before 1978, it may contain lead paint. And if you do repairs or renovations without taking proper precautions, you could put yourself, your family, and your community at risk for lead poisoning, a very serious illness.

Who is affected by lead poisoning?



Anyone can get lead poisoning, but lead is especially dangerous for unborn babies, infants, young children, and pregnant women. Lead can harm a

child's brain and can cause lifelong learning and behavior problems. Lead can also harm older children and adults.

Yet lead poisoning can be prevented.

How can home repairs create lead dangers?

If your home has lead paint, then common activities—such as sanding and scraping an old windowsill or removing paint with a heat gun—can produce dangerous lead dust, chips, and fumes.

Don't Spread Lead shows you how to handle small repairs or renovations safely.

If you are doing major repairs or renovations that may create a lot of dust—jobs like replacing windows—consider taking a training course in lead-safe work practices or hiring a contractor who has taken this training.

By using the five steps of lead safety shown in this program, you can help to prevent lead poisoning for yourself, your family, and your community.

Working lead-safe is not very difficult, and it is very important.



To get more information about working lead-safe, you can request a copy of *Lead Paint Safety: A Field Guide for Painting, Home Maintenance, and Renovation Work* by calling the National Lead Information Clearinghouse at (800) 424-LEAD, or you can download it from www.hud.gov/offices/lead/training/LBPguide.pdf.

If you have questions or wish to obtain copies of this program, contact the Connecticut Department of Public Health at (860) 509-7299.

“By taking a few simple precautions, you can do a great, safe job of fixing up a home.”
—Norm Abram,
master carpenter