

Instructions for Residents Receiving ESG Assistance

About this Tool

This tool provides residents with an overview of the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act, the responsibilities of property owners/managers, and their rights as tenants. Program staff should consider sharing this resource with program participants living in units constructed prior to 1978.

The purpose of this notice is to inform you that because your home was built prior to January 1978, it may contain lead-based paint. Lead from paint, paint chips, and dust can pose health hazards if not managed properly. Lead exposure is especially harmful to young children and pregnant women.

Your landlord should have already provided you with a pamphlet on lead poisoning prevention, as well as a disclosure form on the lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards in your home. The attached handout - entitled *What Are the Sources of Lead in Your Home?* - provides important information. For additional information on lead-based paint and lead hazards, please call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD or visit the web at:

- <http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/index.cfm>; or
- <http://www.epa.gov/lead/>

Regulations under The Lead Safe Housing Rule helps to ensure that your home is safe for occupancy. In order for you to help keep your home safe, please notify the management if you see any paint that is chipping, peeling, flaking, or otherwise damaged.

The bottom of this page can be detached and submitted to the management to bring attention to any lead-based paint concerns.

Lead-Based Paint Concern

To _____
(Landlord/Property Management Company)

I am submitting this notice because I have observed the following:

Paint in bad condition (chipping, peeling, flaking, etc.)

Other _____

Location of Paint Concern:

Exterior (location): _____

Interior (location): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

WHAT ARE THE SOURCES OF LEAD IN YOUR HOME?

There are four major sources of lead that can pose a health hazard to people in and around the home. The sources are:

1. **Lead-based paint.** Lead-based paint can be found in housing built prior to 1978. It can be a hazard, especially if it deteriorates or if it is disturbed during maintenance or through normal wear and tear. If lead-based paint is peeling, chipping, chalking, or cracking, it will create lead-contaminated dust that poisons children through normal hand-to-mouth activity. Children may also eat paint chips or chew on painted surfaces that are accessible to them, resulting in poisoning. Even lead-based paint that appears to be in good condition can be a problem if it is on surfaces that get a lot of wear and tear, such as door jambs and window tracks. It is important to remove the causes of deteriorating paint such as water leaks. Lead paint that is deteriorating can be repaired by repainting with a good latex paint or lead sealer.
2. **Lead-contaminated dust.** Lead-contaminated dust is created when lead-based paint is sanded or scraped during maintenance or repair, or just through every day wear and tear. When maintenance or renovations take place, the dust from these operations settles on surfaces such as floors, countertops, window-sills, and furniture. If the paint being worked on contains lead, the lead is deposited on surfaces as dust. Window tracks and door jambs can be another source of lead-contaminated dust. If these components rub during normal opening and closing, lead-contaminated dust can be created and deposited on surfaces throughout the home. Lead from work done on house exteriors can be tracked into the home, becoming an additional source of lead dust. After routine home maintenance or remodeling/renovation and painting, the home should be thoroughly cleaned to remove any dust that may be left behind because it may contain lead. Lead dust sampling should then be performed to verify that the cleaning was effective.
3. **Lead-contaminated soil.** Soil can become contaminated when exterior lead-based paint deteriorates and gets in the soil. Homes near certain industries such as smelters or battery manufacturers may have lead into the soil as a result of these operations. Past use of leaded gasoline has also left lead deposits in our nation's soil. Playgrounds and gardens should not be placed in areas where the soil is contaminated with lead. Soil can be tracked into the home so it is important for workers to clean shoes or remove them before entering the home.
4. **Lead-contaminated drinking water.** Drinking water can be contaminated with lead, regardless of the water's source. Many faucets in homes and on store shelves contain leaded components that can leach lead into the water. Leaded solder in household piping and leaded components in well pumps have been in use for many years, and continue to leach lead into the drinking water of thousands of homes even today. Many public water delivery systems still have old lead piping through which the water must pass before it reaches the home. Water with a high pH has a tendency to leach more lead than water with a neutral pH, and warm water leaches more lead than cold. Allow cold water to run before drinking.

The following are sources of information about lead-based paint in your home:

- [National Lead Information Center](#) (NLIC) is a clearinghouse for information on lead that provides copies of pamphlets, reports, and other resources. (1-800-424-LEAD)
- [Safe Drinking Water Hotline](#) provides information and assistance to the public on safe drinking water. (1-800-426-4791)