Lead Safety During Renovation

Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP)

Lead RRP regulations apply to anyone who is compensated to work in target housing and child-occupied facilities built before 1978 when:

- Disturbing more than 6ft² of lead-painted or coated surfaces per interior room;
- Disturbing more than 20ft² of lead-painted or coated surfaces on exteriors;
- Replacing windows of any size; and
- Conducting partial demolitions of structures, walls or components.

Tools and Supplies

- Tape
- Stapler
- Barriers and signs
- Heavy plastic sheeting
- Heavy-duty plastic bags
- Utility knife or scissors
- Wet/dry sandpaper and sanding sponge
- Mistling bottle and pump sprayer
- Chemical stripper
- Power tools with HEPA filter-equipped vacuum attachments
- Low-temperature heat gun
- Paper towels or disposable wipes
- Mop and disposable mop heads
- General-purpose cleaner
- Buckets
- Shovel and rake
- HEPA vacuum cleaner

Personal Protective Equipment

- Safety glasses
- Painters’ hat
- Disposable gloves
- Disposable coveralls
- Disposable shoe covers
- N-100-rated disposable respirator

Contact Us
Lead-Based Paint and Asbestos Program
4244 International Parkway, Suite 104
Atlanta, Georgia 30354
epd.georgia.gov/lead-based-paint
Duty Officer 404-363-7026
Mon-Fri 8am - 4:30pm

Retain your records for at least 3 years.

Final Cleaning & Verification

- Remove the plastic sheeting carefully, mist with water, fold dirty side in, tape shut and dispose of it.
- HEPA vacuum all interior surfaces, extending 2 feet beyond the work area, from ceiling to floor.
- Wash the interior work area with a general purpose cleaner and damp cloths. Mop or wet clean uncarpeted floors.

Interior Work Cleaning Verification
The Certified Renovator must:
1. Perform a visual inspection. Re-clean the work area if any paint chips, dust or debris are found;
2. Perform a final cleanup check. Use disposable cleaning cloths to wipe all uncarpeted floors, countertops, windowsills and window troughs in the work area; and
3. Compare each cloth to a cleaning verification card to determine if the work area was adequately cleaned. If the wipe is darker than the card, re-clean, otherwise, the project is complete. Document the cleaning verification.

The cleaning verification card will be given at the conclusion of the one-day Renovator training course.

Exterior Work Cleaning Verification
- The Certified Renovator must perform a visual inspection and re-clean if any paint chips, dust or debris are found. Document the cleaning.

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Oct-18
Pre-Work Requirements

Training and Certification
If you or your firm conduct work that is regulated by the RRP rules, you and your firm must:
- Apply to become a Georgia-certified Renovation Firm;
- Attend a one-day Renovator training course;
- Apply to become a Georgia-Certified Renovator;
- Train workers (include work practices that will be used for each project); and
- Follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination.

Resident and Owner Education
Before beginning work, you are required to distribute the EPA Renovate Right pamphlet and provide information about the project to the following persons:
- Owner AND occupants in target housing (built before 1978);
- Owner of the child-occupied facility (built before 1978) AND the operator or manager; and
- Parents/guardians of the children attending the child-occupied facility.

Set Up Safe Work Areas
The work area must be isolated and contained so that no lead dust or debris leaves the work area.
- Post signs clearly defining the work area and warning non-workers to remain outside the work area;
- Select, issue and supervise the use of Personal Protective Equipment; and
- Do not allow eating, drinking or smoking in the work area.

Work Practices

Interior Work
- Post signs to keep non-workers out of the work area.
- Remove furniture and belongings from the work area, or cover them securely with taped-down heavy plastic sheeting.
- Cover the floor in the work area, extending a minimum of 6 feet beyond the work area, with taped-down heavy plastic sheeting.
- Close and seal vents in the work area and, if necessary, turn off forced-air heating and air conditioning systems.
- Close windows and doors in the work area. Ensure that doors within the work area that will be used by workers are covered with heavy plastic sheeting in a manner that allows workers to pass while confining dust and debris to the work area.
- Use heavy plastic sheeting to separate the work area from the rest of the residence, if applicable.

Exterior Work
- Post signs to keep non-workers out of the work area.
- Close windows and doors within 20 feet of the work area.
- Cover the ground with heavy plastic sheeting extending a minimum of 10 feet beyond the work area perimeter, or a sufficient distance to collect falling paint debris, whichever is greater.

Minimize the Dust
- Mist areas before sanding, scraping, drilling, cutting or demolishing.
- Score paint before separating components.
- Pry and pull apart components instead of pounding and hammering.
- Always use a shroud or hood attachment with the HEPA vacuum when using power tools and equipment.

Prohibited Work Practices
- Open flame burning or torching;
- Sanding, grinding, planning, needle gunning or blasting with power tools, unless equipped with a HEPA exhaust control; and
- Operating a heat gun over 1100°F.

Perform Daily Cleaning
- On a daily basis, waste must be stored in a secured container or removed from the jobsite.
- Place and seal debris in heavy plastic bags. Wrap waste building components, such as windows, in heavy plastic sheeting and tape shut.
- Ensure everything, including tools and workers, are free of dust and debris before leaving the work area.
- HEPA vacuum all interior surfaces, extending 2 feet beyond the work area, from ceiling to floor.
- Wash the interior work area with a general purpose cleaner and damp cloths. Mop or wet clean uncarpeted floors.