

## ***DON'T SPREAD LEAD***

### **What are the sources of lead-hazards in my home?**

- Dust and debris from work on your house
- Old chipping, peeling or worn paint
- Older painted or varnished furniture
- Older vinyl window blinds
- Toys, jewelry, and other children's items
- Water from leaded pipes

### **Is there a lead renovation regulation in Wisconsin?**

Yes, it is found in Ch. DHS 163, Wis. Adm. Code.

### **Who must follow the lead renovation regulation?**

The lead-safe regulation applies to paint-disturbing work done in pre-1978 homes by:

- Painters and Renovation Contractors
- Electricians and Plumbers
- Maintenance Workers and Handymen
- Landlords and Property Managers
- Anyone else doing this work for compensation

### **What does the regulation require?**

- Lead-Safe Renovator training and certification
- Distribution of the 'Renovate Right' pamphlet containing lead information for homeowners
- Work practices that contain all dust and debris
- Daily cleaning and final cleaning verification

**Wisconsin Department of Health Services  
Division of Public Health**



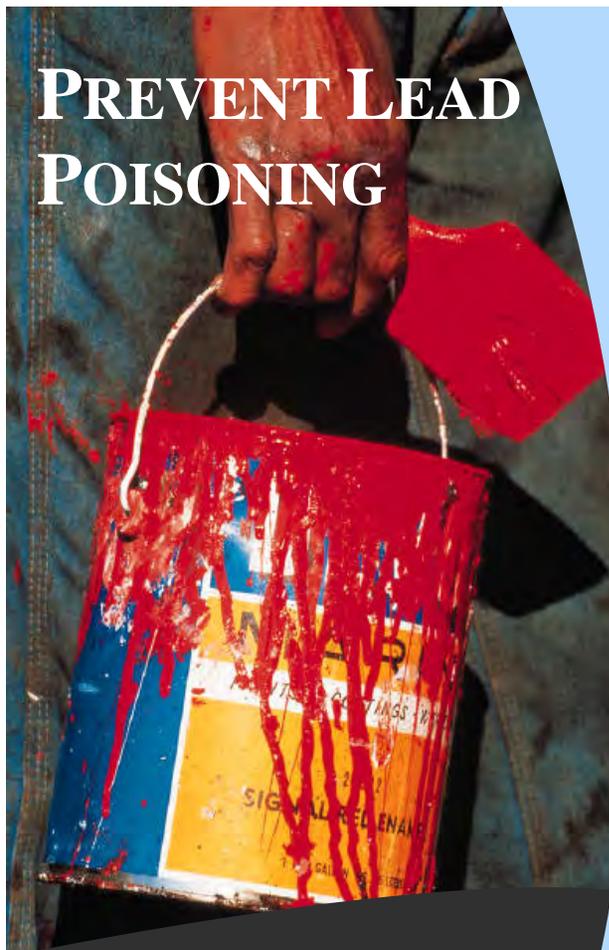
Asbestos and Lead Certification 608-261-6876

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program 608-266-5817

To learn more about lead poisoning, lead-safe work practices, certified lead-safe renovators or lead regulations, visit our website at: [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead).

Based on a brochure developed by the Healthy Environments for Children Initiative, University of Connecticut, and the Connecticut Department of Public Health, in partnership with USEPA Region 1 and the New England Lead Coordinating Committee.

## **PREVENT LEAD POISONING**



*Certified* lead-safe contractors are *more* likely to work lead-safe, and thereby:

1. **Protect your children from lead-poisoning and the permanent damage it causes**
2. **Protect your health and their own workers' health**
3. **Leave your home safe and clean**
4. **Show professional responsibility**
5. **Follow the law**

*If you own a home built before 1978, here are 5 reasons to hire a certified lead-safe contractor*

## 5 REASONS TO HIRE A CERTIFIED LEAD-SAFE CONTRACTOR:

### 1. You'll protect your children's health.

A certified renovator knows how to protect your child from lead poisoning. Lead harms a young child's developing brain, nervous system and organs. It causes permanent brain damage and ongoing medical issues. Lead is associated with lowered IQ, learning disabilities and attention deficits, behavioral problems, kidney disease and hearing loss, among other health issues.

### 2. You'll protect your own health.

Lead exposure also causes health problems in adults. It raises blood pressure, increasing the risk of heart attack and stroke. It decreases brain function, making it more difficult to think, learn, and remember. Lead also increases the risk of miscarriage and causes infertility in women *and* men.

### 3. A certified contractor shows professional responsibility.

A contractor who cares enough to follow the law is more likely to pay attention to doing the entire job right. A contractor who cares about your family's safety leaves behind a clean work area and is an asset to any job.

### 4. You'll maintain your home's safety.

Certified contractors are trained to avoid creating new lead hazards in your home. The certified contractor has taken approved training and is required to:

- Train other workers onsite in the lead-safe practices to use on the project.
- Set up contained work areas that prevent the spread of dust and debris.
- Minimize the dust and debris generated on the job and properly handle waste.
- Safely clean up daily and when work is completed.
- Complete a final Cleaning Verification protocol.

### 5. It's the law!

Contractors are required to be trained and certified and work lead-safe. A contractor who violates this law may be fined up to \$1,000 per day per violation.

Find a WI Certified Lead-Safe Contractor near you at:

[www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead/CompanyList/LeadSafeCompany.pdf](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead/CompanyList/LeadSafeCompany.pdf)

### What about the cost?

Contractors who work lead-safe may charge a bit more but lead-safe requirements add only a relatively small amount to most jobs. Additional costs include materials such as plastic sheeting and some extra set up and clean up time. Careful contractors already spent extra time and money to complete their jobs safely and cleanly. The lead rules simply make sure their methods are also lead-safe.

### -- Keep in mind --

The cost of lead-safe work is truly minor when compared with the costs and heartache of a lead-poisoned child.

Before beginning work, your contractor must give you this pamphlet entitled *Renovate Right*:



Make sure contractors are certified by asking to see their **blue** Wisconsin certification card.