
Module 1

Why Should I Be Concerned About Lead Dust?



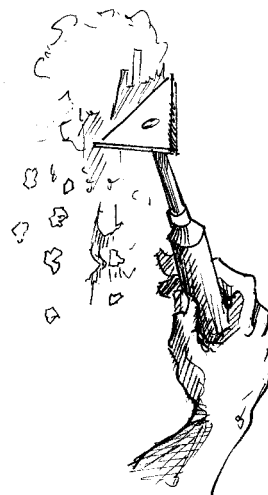
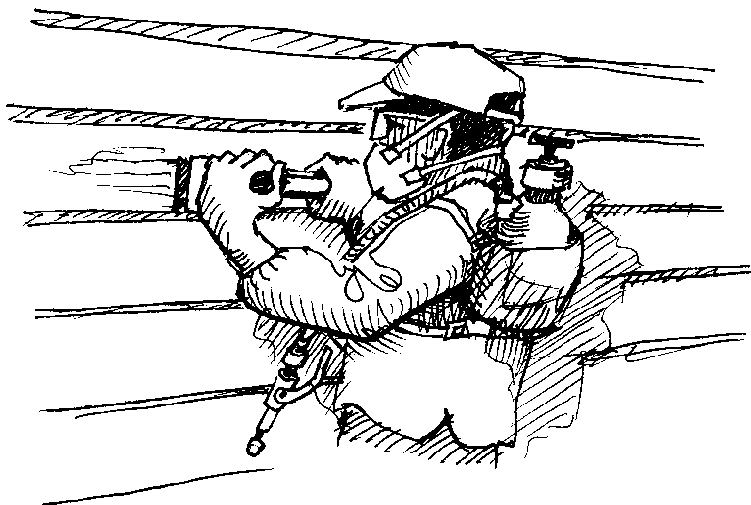
Module 1 Overview

- ◆ Why is lead-contaminated dust a problem?
- ◆ Health risks and effects of lead?
- ◆ What is lead-based paint?
- ◆ How many homes contain lead-based paint?
- ◆ What is being done about lead-based paint?
- ◆ Summary





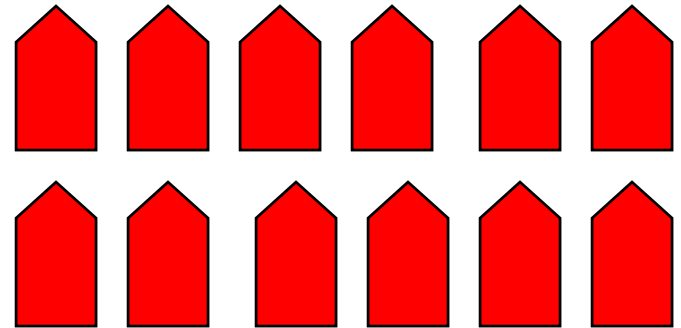
How do we create dust?





A little dust goes a long way . . .

- ◆ You can't see it
- ◆ It's hard to sweep up
- ◆ And it travels



**One gram of lead can
contaminate several homes!**





Why Is Dust and Debris a Problem?

- ◆ **Dust and debris can contain lead**
- ◆ **Lead-contaminated dust and debris is poisonous**
- ◆ **Very small amounts of lead-contaminated dust can poison children and adults**
 - Children swallow it during ordinary play activities
 - Adults swallow or breathe it during work activities
- ◆ **Workers can bring lead-contaminated dust home and poison their families**





Health Risks of Lead

◆ Very hazardous to children

- Reading and learning difficulties
- Behavioral problems
- Difficulty paying attention and hyperactivity
- May result in seizures, coma, and death

◆ Hazardous to pregnant women

- Damage to fetus

◆ Also hazardous to workers and other adults

- Loss of sex drive
- Physical fatigue, high blood pressure





Lead Poisoning

◆ Lead poisoning does not always have obvious symptoms

- Symptoms are easily misdiagnosed, thus delaying effective treatment and increasing the likelihood of permanent physical and mental damage
- Only sure way to determine lead poisoning is to take a blood lead level (BLL) test.





What Is Lead-Based Paint?

◆ Lead-based paint is

- Any paint or surface coating that contains more lead than 0.5% or 5,000 ppm by dry weight or 1.0 mg/cm²
- Some states regulate paint with lower concentrations of lead

◆ Why was lead used in paint?

- Primary pigment
- Added color
- Durability
- Drying agent
- Mildew inhibitor
- Corrosion inhibitor





How Widespread is Lead in Housing?

Year House Was Built

Percent of Houses with Lead-Based Paint

Before 1940

87 percent

1940-1959

69 percent

1960-1978

24 percent

All Housing

40 percent



What Is Being Done About Lead?

◆ Ban in Residential Housing

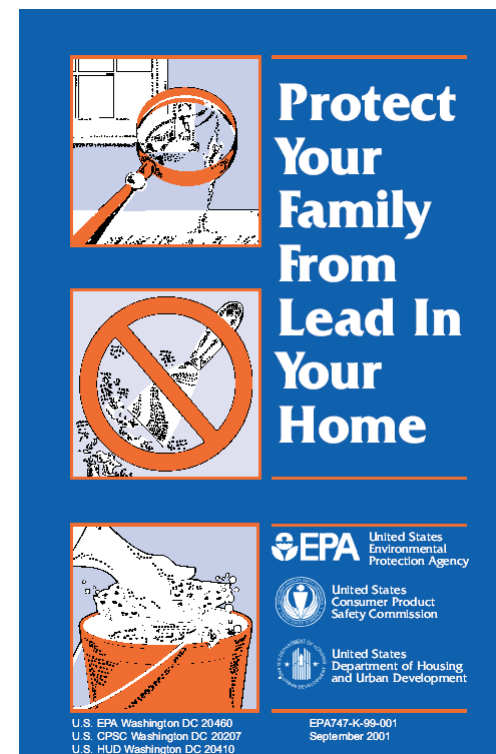
- Lead-based paint was banned from residential use in 1978

◆ Pre-Renovation Education Rule

- Contractors must distribute a pamphlet (See Appendix 5).

◆ Disclosure Rule

- Buyers/renters receive information about lead in their homes
- They can share this information with contractors





What Is Being Done About Lead?

◆ Worker Training

- EPA/state training and accreditation programs for abatement
- Lead Safe Work Practice Training (like this one) for renovation, repair, and painting.

◆ Worker Protection

- Worker protection standards

◆ Lead Hazard Reduction Initiatives

- Required actions in Federally-assisted housing
- Federal grant programs
- State and local initiatives





How Do I Work Lead Safe?

- ◆ **Follow the work practices shown during this training**
- ◆ **Plan your work using the chart in Appendix 1 to determine if Federal or State requirements apply to a job.**
- ◆ **Properties that receive housing assistance**
 - Ask the agency providing the assistance about lead safety requirements.
- ◆ **Jobs involving lead abatement**
 - Tell the owner that a certified lead abatement contractor must perform those activities.





Now You Know

- ◆ **Why we are concerned with lead-contaminated dust**
- ◆ **The health risks of lead to children and adults**
- ◆ **Some actions taken to address lead-based paint**

