

In response to the EPA Lead Renovation, Repair and Paint Rule,
Minnesota Heating & Cooling Association
is offering a one-day class on "Lead Paint Certification".

The class will be held on Thursday, October 14
8 AM to 4:30 PM
the Harrington Company
4248 Park Glen Road
Minneapolis, MN 55416

NEW EPA Requirements

Common renovation activities like sanding, cutting, and demolition can create hazardous lead dust and chips by disturbing lead-based paint, which can be harmful to adults and children.

To protect against this risk, on April 22, 2008, EPA issued a rule requiring the use of lead-safe practices and other actions aimed at preventing lead poisoning. Under the rule, beginning April 22, 2010, contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 must be certified and must follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination.

EPA requires that firms performing renovation, repair, and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in pre-1978 homes, child care facilities and schools be certified by EPA and that they use certified renovators who are trained by EPA-approved training providers to follow lead-safe work practices. Individuals can become certified renovators by taking an eight-hour training course from an EPA-approved training provider. Contractors must use lead-safe work practices and follow these three simple procedures: * Contain the work area * Minimize dust * Clean up thoroughly

Here is the bottom line on the EPA Lead RRP rule:

- Any contractor who disturbs more than six square feet of lead-based paint after October 1, 2010, must be Lead-Safe Certified. Those who aren't could face tens of thousands of dollars in fines per violation.
- The new rule covers pre-1978 homes, apartments, schools, day care centers and other child-occupied facilities
- Lead paint poisoning affects over one million children today. Exposure to harmful lead dust can cause irreversible damage including learning disabilities, hearing loss, speech delays, behavioral issues and lowered IQs. It can also affect adults.
- Research shows that dust spread during renovations is a key cause of many cases of lead poisoning.

A Consumer Fact Sheet can be downloaded at epa.gov/getleadsafe.