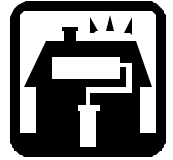


WORK PRACTICES FOR RENOVATIONS TO BUILDINGS CONTAINING LEAD BASED PAINT



THE LAW

A law went into effect in New Orleans on September 20, 2001, governing activities that disturb or remove painted surfaces in and on buildings and steel structures built prior to December 31, 1978. The law, which is part of the Code of the City of New Orleans, Chapter 82, Article VIII, requires property owners and/or contractors who are planning to power sand to: notify affected parties before work begins and post a sign; provide the Department of Safety and Permits with written notice before work begins; use containment barriers prohibiting lead-based paint from migrating and remove visible lead paint contaminants from all regulated areas before completing work. This law applies to renovation only, not abatement.

WHY AN AMENDED LAW?

The law was passed to prevent the public from being exposed to lead-based paint contaminants, which can cause lead poisoning. Lead poisoning can irreparably harm developing children, can cause permanent brain and nerve damage, and can also result in learning difficulties and behavior problems in children.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LAW

A. Notification Requirements:

1. The property owner or contractor shall notify all bidders of any paint inspection reports verifying the presence of any lead-based paint in the regulated area of the proposed project.
2. If paint will be removed on exterior of a building or metal structure built before 1978, the property owner or the contractor must provide the Department of Safety and Permits with written notice before the work begins.
3. When work is performed on the exterior or interior of a residential building, the property owner must provide written notice to tenants three (3) business days before the work begins. The property owner must also provide tenants with a copy of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pamphlet, "*Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home*," before the work begins, unless the owner has previously provided this pamphlet to tenants.
4. Contractors must provide property owners of residential property with a copy of the EPA pamphlet, "*Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home*," three (3) business days before work begins.
5. The property owner or contractor must post a clear "Lead Work in Progress" sign or provide written notice to the adjacent neighbors before the work begins if a sign cannot be posted where it can be clearly seen.

B. Performance Standards

1. Any person who does work that disturbs or removes painted surfaces on the exterior of buildings and steel structures that were built before December 31, 1978, must "establish containment barriers at least as effective at protecting human health and the environment as those contained" in the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) "Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing" or the "Lead Paint Removal Guide" published by the Steel Structure Painting Council, whichever is applicable, or use vacuum attachments with HEPA filters for any

power sanding. Containment barriers should prevent the migration of lead paint contaminants. All visible lead paint contaminants should be removed from all regulated areas before a job is completed.

2. No person doing work on buildings and steel structures built before December 31, 1978, may use the following prohibited practices:
 - a: Open flame burning or torching;
 - b: Scraping, sanding, grinding, abrasive blasting and/or sandblasting without containment barriers or using a HEPA local vacuum exhaust tool;
 - c: Hydro blasting or high-pressure wash with- out containment barriers; and
 - d: Heat guns operating above 1,100 degrees Fahrenheit.

RECOMMENDED SAFE WORK PRACTICES

A. Site Preparation

1. Tape one layer of polyethylene plastic sheeting (at least six millimeters thick) to the side of the building (no gaps between plastic and building) to collect falling paint debris. Extend plastic 10 ft. beyond the perimeter of working surfaces (or less if distance to next building is less than 10 ft). Keep all windows within 20 ft. of working surfaces closed, including windows of adjacent structures.
2. Tape two layers of polyethylene plastic sheeting to the interior wall to prevent debris from entering through building windows when working on the window from the outside. Extend plastic five ft. beyond perimeter of window being treated/replaced. All windows in dwelling should be kept closed. All windows in adjacent dwellings that are closer than 20 ft. to the work area should be kept closed.
3. Cover all areas that might be contaminated by paint debris with plastic sheeting, including the soil and plants in the yard.

Sign requirements

When power sanding or grinding is used to remove lead based paint signs shall be posted clearly visible to adjacent properties stating the following.

LEAD WORK IN PROGRESS
PUBLIC ACCESS TO WORK AREA PROHIBITED.
POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 82, ARTICLE VIII, OF THE
MUNICIPAL CODE, OR ORDINANCE NO. 20345 MCS

The sign required by this section shall be not less than 24 inches square, and shall be in large boldface capital letters no less than one-half inch in size.

B. Surface Preparation

1. For scraping surfaces, you must work wet. Spray and keep the surface moist with a spray bottle.
2. If you use a power sander,, you must use a HEPA vacuum attachment.

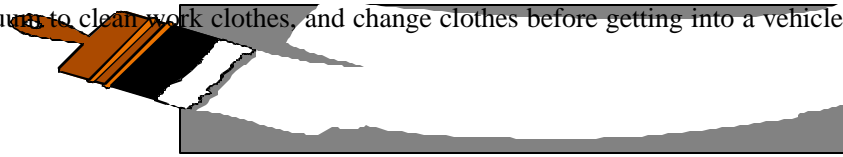
C. Clean Up

1. Keep the area clean as you work by using a HEPA vacuum or by wet sweeping.
2. Dispose of lead-based paint debris in a double bag and place it in a secured container. Clean and dispose of the plastic sheeting

in the trash.

3 .Remove contaminated debris carried inside a building with a HEPA vacuum, then clean with a disposable moist cloth or mop. Vacuum with a HEPA vacuum again.

4. Use a HEPA vacuum to clean work clothes, and change clothes before getting into a vehicle.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

For copies of forms and to report unsafe exterior work practices, call the Department of Safety & Permits, at 504-565-6130.

For questions regarding interior work practices and for information related to childhood lead poisoning call the Health Department at 504-565-8188.

For copies of the EPA pamphlet, "Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home, " call 214-665-7577.

For information about containment barriers and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Guidelines, call 800-245-2691.

For information on worker safety, contact the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) at 800-321-6742 or 225-398-0474.

For information on disposal of lead paint, call the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) at 504-736-7701.

For other questions or to have someone come talk to your organization about the Ordinance and Lead Poisoning Prevention, call the Mayor's Office of Environmental Affairs at 504-565-8115.

If you would like a copy of the city ordinance visit the city website www.new-orleans.la.us

Click on City Council than go to The Charter and City Law