

SUMMARY OF REGULATION # 24

REMOVAL OF LEAD BASED PAINT FROM EXTERIOR SURFACES

Applicable to Whom: Regulation # 24 applies to any persons, including contractors and homeowners, who remove lead-based paint from exterior surfaces.

Exemption from Regulation: If a contractor or homeowner tests paint for lead and determines that no lead is present, then Regulation # 5, "Fugitive Dust" may apply, which requires that containment methods be used during paint removal. If test shows lead is present in the paint, then Regulation # 24 must be complied with.

Who Must be Notified of Exterior Lead Paint Removal: Adults in residences (including the structure from which lead paint is being removed), managers of businesses, and principals of schools located within 50 feet of the structure undergoing lead paint removal must be notified, in writing, of the removal of lead based paint at least 5 days prior to the removal project. A sample notification form is available in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format by clicking [here](#).

Preparation of Site: To collect paint debris, use adequate ground cover (such as a tarp) and anchor it or weigh it down. Remove all toys, play equipment and furnishings within 50' of the paint removal project, or cover them with a leak proof material. Erect vertical containment if paint debris is observed going beyond ground sheeting.

Structures other than Buildings: A plan must be submitted to the DEM's Office of Air Resources for approval prior to the removal. This plan must describe the type of removal to be utilized and measures to be employed to prevent contamination of the environment with lead. To request approval, you must submit your plan to DEM's Office of Air Resources, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767, Attn: Mr. Ted Burns, (401) 222-2808 or FAX (401) 222-2017.

APPROVED METHODS

Wet Manual Scraping: Mist paint surfaces with water just prior to scraping

HEPA Equipped Mechanical Sanding or Scraping: Allowed as long as sander or scraper is equipped with a HEPA vacuum unit. Sanding pad or scraping disc cannot be wider than the shingle or clapboard exposure. Close and seal all doors and windows on paint removal side. Air conditioners must be shut off and covered.

HEPA Equipped Dry Abrasive: Abrasive-blasting system must be equipped with a HEPA vacuum that collects paint debris at the blasting head. Close and seal all doors and windows on paint removal side. Air conditioners must be shut off and covered.

Wet Abrasive: Vertical containment must be used to prevent any and all lead paint debris generated by the operation from going beyond ground sheeting. Any and all liquid waste containing lead must be handled and disposed of in accordance with DEM Solid and Hazardous Waste Regulations.

Heat Removal: No open flame is permitted. Heat Gun or other devices cannot exceed 1000⁰ F.

Chemical Removal: Allowed as long as stripper is nonflammable and contains no methylene chloride.

ALTERNATIVE METHODS

A description of alternative methods for lead paint removal must be submitted to, and approved by DEM's Office of Air Resources prior to removing paint. To request approval for an Alternative Procedure, you must seek approval from DEM's Office of Air Resources, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767, Attn: Mr. Ted Burns, (401) 222-2808 or FAX (401) 222-2017.

CLEAN UP

End of Day: Collect and place in containers all lead paint related debris, including liquid waste, and store in plastic bags in an area not easily accessible to the public. Inspect area for any leftover paint debris. All sheeting must be removed and stored away from public access.

End of Project: Properly dispose of all containers of lead paint debris and liquid waste, including ground covers. Inspect area for any leftover paint debris. Dispose of paint in accordance with DEM Solid and Hazardous Waste Regulations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Lead paint dust is DANGEROUS!
- Lead poisoning is a serious environmental health hazard.

- Most houses in Rhode Island built before 1978 contain lead paint.
- Renovating lead-painted surfaces creates hazardous dust, fumes, and debris if removed improperly.

According to the RI Department of Health: Lead, even at low levels, can cause children to have learning disabilities, lower IQ, and behavioral problems.

Lead can also cause: High blood pressure, Anemia, Brain damage, Impotence, and Death.

QUESTIONS?

[Click here](#) to read the [Disposal Guidelines](#)

[Click here](#) to view the form [Notification of Removal of Lead Based Paint](#) in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format

Still have unanswered questions? Call the Office of Compliance and Inspection at (401) 222-1360; or Tom Armstrong at the Office of Technical and Customer Assistance at (401) 222-6822, Ext. 4412.

Removal of Interior Lead Paint - Call the RI Department of Health LEAD HOTLINE at (800) 942-7434.

NOTE: This is a summary of Regulation # 24 for convenience only. Reliance upon the information herein will not relieve any person of liability under Regulation # 24.