

## New Lead Safety Rules

On April 22, 2008, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the new Renovation, Repair, and Painting rule effective April 2010. The new rule requires contractors to be certified and follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination if performing renovation, repair, or painting projects that have the potential to disturb lead-based paint in child-occupied facilities.

Under the rule, child-occupied facilities are defined as residential, public, or commercial buildings constructed prior to 1978 where children under age six are present in common areas on a regular basis. This includes, but is not limited to, homes, day care centers, preschools, and kindergarten classrooms. Common areas are defined as areas that are routinely used by children under age six, such as restrooms, cafeterias, and gymnasiums. Common areas that children under age six only pass through (e.g., hallways, stairwells) are not included. Exterior areas covered under the rule include areas immediately adjacent to common areas, such as the exterior window frame outside a kindergarten classroom.

The rule excludes renovations affecting painted building components that have been found to contain lead equal to or less than 1.0 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> or 0.5% by weight by a certified lead inspector or lead risk assessor. The rule does not apply to minor maintenance or repair activities where less than 2 square feet of lead-based paint is disturbed in a room or where less than 20 square feet of lead-based paint is disturbed on the exterior of a building.

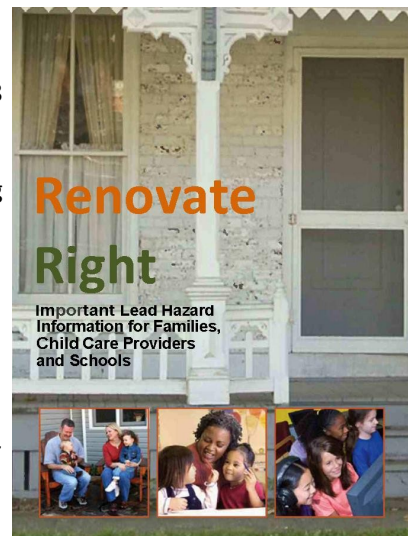
The rule requires all renovations subject to this rule be performed by a contractor that is EPA certified. In addition, the rule requires that all workers performing renovation work either be certified renovators or perform renovation under the direction of a certified renovator. To become a certified renovator, the individual must successfully complete an accredited renovator course.

One piece of the new rule that became effective December 2008 requires contractors performing renovation, repair, or painting projects that have the potential to disturb lead-based paint to provide a lead hazard information pamphlet entitled *Renovate Right: Important Lead Hazard Information for Families, Child Care Providers, and School*. The pamphlet

must be provided prior to start of work to owners and occupants of child-occupied facilities and to parents and guardians of children under age six that attend child-occupied facilities built prior to 1978. The pamphlet is available on the EPA website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovaterightbrochure.pdf>.

IEA can provide lead inspection services to determine if the affected areas of your buildings have lead-based paint. A limited survey of common areas would give you the basic information necessary to move forward with projects that have the potential to disturb lead-based paint.

For more information on the new EPA Renovation, Repair and Painting rule please contact Diedra Hudgens at [diedrah@ieainstitute.com](mailto:diedrah@ieainstitute.com) or Matt Lindberg at [mattl@ieainstitute.com](mailto:mattl@ieainstitute.com) or call us at 763.315.7900.



**March 14-20**  
**National Poison Prevention Week**  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
[www.poisonprevention.org](http://www.poisonprevention.org)



Please contact us at 800.233.9513 or visit our recently updated website at [www.ieainstitute.com](http://www.ieainstitute.com).

IEA is an environmental, health, and safety consulting organization with experience in industrial, educational, and healthcare facilities. The information presented above is developed in accordance with generally accepted environmental, health, and safety practices.