

WHAT?

Many Oklahoma homes built before 1978 were painted with lead-based paint. Remodeling, renovating, or normal wear and tear can create dust and lead-paint hazards that can cause lead poisoning.

WHO?

Lead poisoning can occur when lead-based paint dust is ingested or inhaled. **All individuals exposed to lead are at risk for lead poisoning.**

Children, infants, and pregnant women are at greater risk.

If your home was built before 1978, the year lead-based paint was banned from home use, you may want to schedule an inspection to find out if your home contains lead-based paint. For a list of certified lead-based paint inspectors in your area, contact the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality's Lead-Based Paint Program at 405.702.4100.

DANGERS OF REMODELING A PRE-1978 HOME

To protect yourself and your family during remodeling:

When possible, you should hire a certified Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) professional. The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality maintains a list of certified professionals. **You may contact them at 405.702.4100.**

- DO NOT REMAIN AT HOME DURING THE RENOVATION. It is especially important for children and pregnant women to find other accommodations until all of the renovation work is completed.
- Only properly protected workers should enter the work area.
- If you do the work yourself, follow the safety tips outlined on the inside of this brochure.

GET YOUR HOME TESTED

For more information, contact:

- The Oklahoma State Department of Health Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
1.800.766.2223
- The National Lead Information Center Hotline
1.800.424.5323



OKLAHOMA
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GET THE LEAD OUT

**REMOVING OR REDUCING
LEAD EXPOSURE IN
YOUR HOME**



LEAD-BASED PAINT DANGER

SAFETY TIPS

- Protect and cover all food appliances, cooking and eating utensils, furniture, bedding, toys, and clothes from lead dust or remove from the work area, if possible.
- Do not eat or smoke in the work area.
- Place a damp floor mat outside of the work area to collect dust and paint chips from bottoms of shoes.
- Clean using dampened cloths or mops with an all-purpose cleaner.
- Wash work clothes and rags separately from other laundry.
- Hang plastic sheeting to keep lead dust contained.

REMODELING TIPS

- When removing paint from the outside of your house, seal the windows and vents so dust cannot get inside the house.
- Remove shoes before going inside.
- Do not walk around clean areas of the house in dirty work clothes.
- To remove paint chips, dampen the sides of buildings and scrub with a stiff brush. DO NOT POWER WASH. Collect paint chips in a plastic bag and throw away.

WHERE IS LEAD FOUND?



SCREENING

The only way to know if you have been exposed to lead is by having a blood lead test. There is no safe level of lead.

Ask your health care provider or clinic if you are at risk, especially:

- Children 6 months to 6 years of age.
- Pregnant women.
- Lead is not safe for anyone. Even pets can be exposed to harmful lead.
- Individuals may have lead poisoning but NOT show symptoms or might show flu-like symptoms.

