



Rhode Island Information

**Rhode Island Lead Laws
and Contact Information**

Rhode Island Contact Information

Department of Environmental Management

Information about DEM Regulation # 24,
Removal of Lead Based Paint from Exterior Surfaces
Office of Air Resources
401-222-2808, Ext. 7013
www.dem.ri.gov

Exterior Lead Paint Certification Program,
Compliance Assistance
Office of Technical & Customer Assistance
401-222-6822, Ext. 4412

Exterior Lead Paint Removal Complaints
Office of Compliance & Inspection
401-222-1360

Department of Health

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
Division of Family Health
1-800-942-7434
Environmental Lead Program
401-222-1417
www.health.ri.gov

Office of Occupational Health
OSHA Consultation Program
401-222-2438

Housing Resources Commission

Information about the Lead Hazard Mitigation Law
401-222-LEAD (5323)
www.hrc.ri.gov

What You Should Know About

Childhood Lead Poisoning Screening: All children under six years of age must be screened for lead poisoning annually. Lead screening is a simple blood test. Ask your doctor about getting a lead test for your child at your next visit. Call the Family Health Information Line at 1-800-942-7434 to learn how to protect your children from lead poisoning.

Lead Inspections: The Department of Health certifies inspectors who can test paint, soil, dust, and water in and around your home for lead. For a list of inspectors call 1-800-942-7434.

Lead Hazard Reduction: When removing interior lead based paint, you must follow state regulations. Lead hazard reduction must be done by contractors certified by the Department of Health. For a list of licensed contractors call 1-800-942-7434. The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management regulates exterior lead-based paint removal. For information, call 401-222-1360. The Department of Health can enforce lead hazard reduction on properties where significantly lead poisoned children reside. For information about properties that may pose a high risk for lead poisoning, visit www.health.ri.gov or call 401-222-1417.

Renovation/Remodeling: If you are planning a renovation or remodeling project that will disturb lead paint surfaces, you must follow state regulations. For information on how to safely conduct renovation work call 1-800-942-7434 and request a copy of the brochure, "Keep It Clean: An Insiders' Guide to Lead Safe Painting and Home Improvement". It can also be downloaded at www.health.ri.gov. If you are hiring someone to conduct renovations on your property, the remodeler or renovator must obtain your signature on a Notification Form and give you a copy of the Protect Your Family From Lead In Your Home pamphlet for your awareness.

Residential Rental Property: If you own a rental unit in Rhode Island that was built before 1978, state law requires most landlords to attend a Lead Hazard Awareness Seminar and maintain your rental unit using approved lead hazard maintenance practices. For information, call (401) 222-LEAD(5323), or visit www.hrc.ri.gov.

The Rhode Island Lead Law

Financial Assistance: A state tax credit of up to \$5,000 per unit is available for some lead hazard reduction work and a tax credit of up to \$1,500 per unit is available for some lead hazard mitigation work. Call 401-222-6262 and ask about the "Residential Lead Abatement Tax Credit Form". Grants and loans are also available to help property owners fix lead hazards on their properties. For a list of lead hazard reduction resources, visit the Housing Resources Commission at www.hrc.ri.gov or call 401-222-LEAD (5323).

Disclosure of Lead Hazards: Rhode Island law requires owners of properties built before 1978 to disclose known information about lead exposure hazards and potential lead exposure hazards prior to sale or lease (written or oral) of residential property in Rhode Island. The law requires:

- **Landlords and Sellers** to disclose available information about lead hazards or potential lead hazards, provide available reports, include a lead warning and disclosure acknowledgment statement in the lease or sales contract and give out this pamphlet before a lease takes effect or a buyer becomes obligated under a sales contract.
- **Sellers** must allow buyers a ten-day period to conduct a lead inspection or risk assessment (at the buyer's expense) before buyers become obligated under a sales contract.

For education, advocacy,
and parent support, call
The Childhood
Lead Action Project,
at 401-785-1310 or
visit www.leadsafekids.org