

Clean Up: *The Most Important Step*

If abatement workers don't clean correctly, lead levels can actually increase!

Materials Needed

A high-phosphate detergent or lead-specific cleaner such as tri-sodium phosphate or TSP.

A HEPA filtered vacuum.

6-mil thick plastic trash bags or sheet plastic and duct tape for wrapping long boards, etc.

Disposable clothes, sponges and mops, or mop heads.

Steps

Workers must:

1. Wrap trash in double plastic bags and seal them shut with duct tape.
2. Vacuum surfaces with the HEPA vacuum.
3. Wet all surfaces with water and the high-phosphate detergent.
4. Repeat steps 2 & 3 after the surfaces have dried.
5. Dispose of used plastic properly.

Cleaning is a Continuous Process

Workers must:

Keep Lead Dust from Building Up

- Clean the area every day to keep lead levels low and help achieve clearance requirements.
- Clean all surfaces from the top down so lead particles aren't rinsed into clean areas.
- Work from the back corner of a room toward the doorway.

Keep Lead Out of Other Areas

By following the practices for entering and leaving the work area.

Proper Waste Disposal

Types of Lead Waste

- Paint chips and dust
- Wood components that were removed.
- Plastic bags, sheeting and duct tape
- Used cleaning supplies, towels, mops, etc.
- Disposable work clothes, masks and respiratory filters
- Waste water

General Rules for Disposal

- Use only waste containers labeled "**Danger: Lead Hazard**".
- Dispose of liquid waste water in noncorrosive containers. It must never be poured down the house sinks or toilets, storm drains, or on the ground.
- Use only landfills that have a permit to accept special waste.
- Keep wastes covered while transporting it to the landfill.
- Do not burn lead waste as it creates dangerous lead fumes.

Inspection and Final Cleaning

When Abatement Is Completed

Workers must:

- Wait for an hour after all final work to complete a final cleaning.
- Conduct a final cleaning.
- Do a visual inspection for any missed areas or items needing disposal.
- If necessary perform another final cleaning.
- The contractor then notifies the homeowners chosen Lead Evaluator that the area is ready for clearance testing.

Final Clearance Testing

Once abatement work and cleaning is complete, a certified Lead Evaluator will perform dust sampling of the site to determine if the area is sufficiently cleaned to required standards.

Not Too Soon

- Clearance testing can't be done until at least one hour after all final cleaning was complete. This allows time for any lead dust in the air to settle.
- If standards are not met the Final Cleaning and Clearance Testing must be repeated until cleaning standards are met.
- Once Clearance standards are met the Local Health Department will issue a letter stating that the abatement order requirements have been met. In some cases, a monitoring and maintenance plan may be required if any interim control work was conducted on the exterior.

For more information contact your local health department:

SALEM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CHILDHOOD LEAD EXPOSURE PREVENTION PROGRAM

856-935-7510 x 8448
110 5th St. Ste 500
Salem, NJ 08079

<https://health.salemcountynj.gov/environmental/>

For information on

Lead Hazard Evaluation & Abatement:
NJ DEPT. OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Phone: (609) 633-6224

Fax: (609) 943-5159

http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/codes/offices/leadhazard_abatement.html

For further information on Children and Lead in NJ:

NJ DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
<http://www.nj.gov/health/childhoodlead/>

For Information on all things related to Lead visit the US EPA Lead website:
<https://www.epa.gov/lead>

Lead Paint Abatement:

A Guide for Parents and Homeowners



SALEM COUNTY
DEPT. OF HEALTH

856-935-7510 x 8448
110 5th St. Ste 500
Salem, NJ 08079

What is Abatement?

ABATEMENT is when a state or local health authority orders that lead hazards must be safely removed or permanently controlled by a certified contractor, because a child who has lived there has been found to have elevated levels of lead in their blood. An Abatement Order is issued after a dwelling has been inspected and lead has been found.

INTERIM CONTROLS are effective but temporary things that you can do to reduce lead hazards while waiting for abatement to be completed. They usually require routine repeated processes and for this reason are not allowed as a final solution for indoor hazards.



Can I Remove It Myself?

While not recommended, if 1) you are the homeowner, 2) are related to the child found to have elevated blood lead levels and 3) you live in the same dwelling, you can choose to do the Abatement work yourself. But keep in mind:

You cannot pay anyone else to do the work. You must ALWAYS use industry lead safe work practices and obtain proper permits. You must submit to supervision, requirements, and inspections by the Local Health Department throughout the process.

You must be aware that you will increase the lead hazard to your family and your pets if you do not follow all lead safe work practices.

In order to meet these requirements it is recommended that you take an EPA-approved training course from a provider found at [EPA's Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program website](#).

How Should I Select a Contractor?

- Chose a “company” licensed by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJDCA). The list of licensed contractors can be found at [NJDCA Approved Abatement Contractors](#)
- It is recommended that you obtain more than one quote.
- Ask the “contractor” who will conduct the work to provide a copy of their individual permit from NJ Department of Health and Human Services (NJDHHS).
- You must also choose a Certified Lead Evaluator who will check to see that lead dust was properly removed after the job is finished. This contractor must also have a license from NJDCA and a permit from NJDHSS and must not be working with, or for, the contractor doing the abatement work.

How is Lead Commonly Abated?

You should understand the basics about lead abatement so that you can be assured your contractor is conducting the work properly and safely. The following are approved methods:

- **Enclosure**– is typically used on large surfaces such as walls and ceilings that are not subject to friction. It is the safe and secure covering and sealing of lead paint with material such as vinyl, paneling or sheetrock.
- **Replacement**– involves removing the object that is coated with lead paint entirely and replacing it with new material. It is the best method for doors, windows, molding and other surfaces that are subject to friction.
- **Paint Removal**– may be done on or off of the work site. It has the potential to create large amounts of lead dust and fumes and therefore is best left to professionals. It involves the physical removal of paint, using approved methods.
- **Encapsulation**– covers and seals lead paint with a special paint like adhesive coating that is guaranteed to last for 20 years. It may not be used on friction or impact surfaces such as windows, doors, floors and steps.

Is Lead Abatement Dangerous?

If not done properly, it can be. A properly trained contractor should be following these best practices:

THE ENTIRE SURFACE MUST BE ABATED if any part is coated with lead paint. Patch work is not allowed.

THE BEST METHOD SHOULD BE USED. For example replacing a window is safer, easier and less expensive than the removal of the paint.

SOME METHODS MUST NEVER BE USED The law forbids the following methods because they create dangerous lead fumes and dust:

Dry scraping, sanding with a power grinder or electric plane; sandblasting; burning with a torch or heat gun over a certain temperature; chemical removers and strippers.

ADEQUATE BARRIERS MUST BE USED to prevent lead dust from being created. Coverings such as wallpaper, vinyl or contact paper, and latex paint must not be used as they are easily damaged.

What is the Abatement Process?

BEFORE AND DURING ABATEMENT Workers must follow basic procedures.

Before Abatement Work Begins

workers must:

- Seal off all doors and windows, air ducts, etc. with 6-mil thick plastic sheeting, creating a type of curtained barrier that keeps lead dust in the work area.
- Remove all furniture, carpets, drapes, etc. (Everything that remains must be covered with plastic drop cloths. Newspaper and fabric is not allowed).

During Abatement

workers must:

- Use masks or respirators approved by the federal government for lead paint abatement.
- Avoid eating, drinking, smoking or chewing gum and tobacco in the abatement area.
- Workers should wash face and hands and change clothes every time they leave the work area, and before they eat. Workers should always wash work clothes separately from family laundry.

Personal Protective Equipment

Often Includes:

- Disposable coveralls
- Shoe covers or booties
- OSHA approved respirators
- Gloves
- Goggles

Before Entering

The abatement area, workers must:

- Select the proper PPE for the hazards they're likely to face.
- Put on protective clothing in a clean area.
- Make sure PPE fits properly and is in good condition.
- Store street clothes in clean area.

When Leaving

The abatement area, workers must:

- Remove loose dust from clothing using a HEPA vacuum.
- Roll of PPE to minimize dust.
- Place disposable clothing with abatement waste, and place washable clothing in a clearly marked laundry plastic bag or container with lid.
- Clean respirators with soap and water, dry them thoroughly and store them in a sealed plastic bag.
- Wash their hands and face thoroughly.