



Asbestos & Lead Based Paint

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Asbestos

- Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral.
- It is not man-made.





Asbestos



- It achieved wide spread use after WWII.

- It has been used for many purposes for thousands of years.





Asbestos

- It has not been banned and is still available in building products today.





Asbestos Regulations

- There are State and Federal Regulations that dictate who can disturb asbestos and how it must be done.
- State statutes gives MDEQ the authority to enforce these regulations.
- Renovation and demolition activities in all commercial and in some residential buildings are regulated.



Asbestos Regulations

The regulations require :

- An inspection by a MDEQ certified asbestos inspector.
- Notification to MDEQ for all demolitions and renovations when asbestos is going to be disturbed.
- The use of MDEQ certified individuals to disturb the asbestos.
- Proper disposal of the asbestos at an approved landfill.



Asbestos Health Effects

- Mesothelioma – cancer that is 100% fatal
- Asbestosis – Breathing illness that often leads to death
- Lung Cancer – often fatal





Asbestos: Where is it?

Common building products that can contain asbestos include:

- Vinyl flooring
- Asphalt roofing
- Old cement based shingles and siding (Transite)
- Plaster, sheetrock and decorative texturing
- Pipe, boiler and spray applied insulation



Asbestos: Prohibited Activities

- The uncontrolled disturbing of materials that contain asbestos in regulated structures.
- Burning of any structure or demolition debris.
- Disposal of regulated materials at any unapproved location.



Asbestos

- Although hazardous when disturbed, it has been widely used and is still a part of the products we use today.
- When left undisturbed and handled properly, it is a safe and useful material.
- Improper handling and disposal can create health hazards both now and in the future.



Lead

- Lead is a soft and malleable metal.
- Lead is used in building materials, paints, lead-acid batteries, bullets and shot, weights and as part of solders and pewters.
- Lead is a poisonous substance to animals, including humans. It damages the nervous system and causes brain disorders.
- Lead is a neurotoxin that accumulates both in soft tissues and the bones.



Facts About Lead Exposure

- Fact: Lead contaminated dust is **poisonous**.
- Fact: Lead exposure can harm young children and babies even before they are born.
- Fact: Even children who seem healthy can have high levels of lead in their bodies.
- Fact: People can get lead in their bodies by breathing or swallowing lead dust, or by eating soil or paint chips containing lead.
- Fact: People have many options for reducing lead hazards. In most cases, lead-based paint that is in good condition is not a hazard.
- Fact: Removing lead-based paint improperly can increase the danger to your family.



Lead Based Paint

- Lead was added to paint and other coatings to increase durability, color vitality and insect resistance.
- It was used in high traffic and high moisture areas.
- It was phased out in the 1970's and banned January 1, 1978.





Lead Based Paint Regulations

- There are State and Federal Regulations that dictate who can disturb Lead based paint and how it must be done.
- State statutes gives MDEQ the authority to enforce these regulations.
- Disturbing paint in older residential buildings and child occupied facilities is regulated.



Lead Based Paint Regulations

- Local governments may also be regulated and may be required to become RRP Certified Firms if they maintain any regulated buildings.
- Other responsible parties include:
 - The Contractor who disturbs the paint
 - The entity that employs the maintenance people
 - The rental property owner that leases or rents the property to the Child Care Giver



What the Regulations Require

The regulations require:

- All paint in (or on) residential buildings and child occupied facilities be treated as if it contains Lead until it has been checked by an MDEQ certified individual.
- Notification to MDEQ when activities disturb lead based paint (above the threshold).
- The use of MDEQ certified individuals to disturb the lead based paint.
- Disposal?



Lead Paint Comes With a Lifetime Guarantee.

- Very Hazardous to Children
 - Damages the brain and central nervous system; can cause decreased intelligence, reading and learning difficulties, behavioral problems and hyperactivity.
 - Damage can be irreversible, affecting children throughout their lives.
- Hazardous to Pregnant Women.
 - Lead passes across the placental barrier poisoning the fetus in the womb.
 - If the woman was exposed to lead as a child, stored lead in her bones can leach back into her blood and poison the fetus in the womb.



Additional Health Effects of Lead Exposure

- Lead is Also Hazardous to Workers and Other Adults
 - High Blood Pressure
 - Loss of Sex Drive and/capability.
 - Physical Fatigue
- Lead Exposure Can Cause Permanent Damage.



Lead Based Paint: Where Is It?

- Residential structures
- Child-occupied facilities
 - Schools
 - Day Care Centers
 - Head Start Facilities
- Facilities built before 1978





Mississippi Statistics: 2004 through 2009

- In MS there were 1,640 children identified with lead poisoning.
- Children with lead poisoning were identified in 77 of the 82 counties.
- Children aged 2-3 make up the majority of children who test positive for Elevated Blood Lead Level.
- The 2000 US Census estimates that ~275,000 housing units in MS contain lead-based paint and ~1/2 are low income housing.



Regulated Activities

- In general, any activity that disturbs paint in pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities is subject to the regulations. This includes:
 - Remodeling and repair/maintenance
 - Window replacement
 - Plumbing, Electrical, or HVAC work
 - Winterization activities
 - Carpentry





Additional Regulated Activities

Activities that are also regulated but most people would not think of include:

- Removal or replacement of architectural features such as doors, cabinets, etc.
- Work on sheds and other out buildings.
- Roofing work if it disturbs painted soffits or trim.



Prohibited Activities

- Open flame torching of painted surfaces
- Removal using high speed grinders or sanders
- Uncontrolled removal of paint such as by sand blasting and pressure washing





Lead Based Paint

- Although toxic dust and debris are created when disturbed, it is typically safe when in good condition and undisturbed.
- Widely used in the 1950s through the 1970s, but was phased out and banned by 1978.
- Improper handling and disposal can create health hazards both now and in the future.



Report Suspicious Activity

- Call MDEQ at 601-961-5171 and ask for the lead based paint section.
- Provide a location and a description of the activity.
- If available provide contact information for the individual conducting the activity.



How You Can Help

- Spread the word about the regulations.
- Notify MDEQ when you see something suspicious.
- Take photos and complete notes.
- **KEEP SAFE**



For more information

Contact MDEQ at
Office of Pollution Control
P.O. Box 2261
Jackson, MS 39225
www.deq.state.ms.us

601-961-5171