



## “Lead Safe Renovator” FAQs



### Who needs this?

- Anyone who is doing work for compensation on a home or child occupied facility built pre-1978 that is...
  - Replacing window(s) (does not matter if replacement does not fall into square feet requirements below, window(s) are **always** included)
  - Disturbing more than 6 square feet of interior painted or coated lead contaminated surfaces
  - Disturbing more than 20 square feet of exterior painted or coated lead contaminated surfaces

### What do contractors need to do?

- Complete an 8 hour Wisconsin accredited “Lead Safe Renovation Course” or an 8 hour out of state EPA accredited “Lead Safe Renovation Course”
- Certify your Firm
  - Fill out the Wisconsin Department of Health Services “Lead- Based Paint Activities & Investigations Certification Application- Company”
  - Pay a fee of \$75 to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for a 2 year certification
- Certify the individual that has taken the Lead Safe Renovator Course
  - Fill out the Wisconsin Department of Health Services “Lead Certification Application – Individual”
  - Pay a fee of \$50 to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for a 2 year certification
  - Pay an additional \$25 processing fee if training was completed out of state

### What are the responsibilities of the “Lead Safe Renovator”?

- Each renovation project **must** have a certified Lead-Safe Renovator in charge
- The lead safe renovator is responsible for training employees on how to work lead safe.
- The lead safe renovator must be on the job site during site set-up and posting of warning signs.
  - The lead safe renovator **does not** have to be on the job site at all times while renovation work is being conducted but **does** need to be reachable by cell phone and able to return to the jobsite within about 30 minutes.
- The lead safe renovator **must be** on the job site for take down and clean-up.
- The lead safe renovator **must** personally perform the cleaning verification.
- The lead safe renovator is responsible for all of the record keeping involved.

### Who enforces the “Lead Rule”?

- The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) enforces the Wisconsin Lead-Safe Renovation Program under Chapter DHS 163, Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- WI DHS is EPA authorized to administer and enforce its own Lead Safe Renovation program
- To **report** non-compliance call 608-261-6876

## **“Lead Safe Renovator” FAQs Continued**

### **Where is the Wisconsin rule different than EPA’s?**

- The definition of lead paint is more stringent in the state of WI than EPA’s definition, .06% lead by weight compared with 0.5% lead by weight in the federal definition.
  - Because the definition allows less lead in paint, there are currently **no** approved lead paint test kits in WI
  - Testing for lead in a home needs to be done by a Certified Lead Risk Assessor or Certified Lead Inspector
- No chemical paint strippers containing methylene chloride are allowed in Wisconsin.
- No high-pressure water blasting or hydroblasting is allowed **unless** conducted in a fully contained work area with HEPA-filtered exhaust control and water collection.
- No improperly operating HEPA vacuums are allowed.
- No dry sweeping, dust, debris or paint chips in a renovation work area is allowed.

### **What does a general contractor need to know when working with sub-contractors?**

- The person/firm who **has** the contract with the homeowner to conduct renovation work **must** be a certified firm and is responsible for all reporting requirements
- While it is strongly recommended that all companies involved in a renovation are certified, a general contractor can hire an uncertified lead safe renovator sub-contractor as long as the following is met:
  - The general is responsible for assuring that other companies are properly trained and certified for the tasks they will perform and that work is performed per the work practice standards
  - An uncertified sub-contractor may not be in the work area while paint is being disturbed
  - An uncertified sub-contractor **cannot** disturb more than 6 sq feet of interior surfaces, 20 sq feet of exterior surfaces or remove or replace windows
  - The general contractor must educate the uncertified sub-contractor on:
    - The requirement to keep barriers and containment up, intact, and secured
    - The requirements of entering and exiting the contained work area
  - The general contractor that hires a subcontractor is also responsible for lead-safe renovation violations committed by the sub.

### **What does a sub-contractor need to know when working with a general contractor?**

- The person/firm who **has** the contract with the homeowner to conduct renovation work **must** be a certified firm and be responsible for all reporting requirements
- If the sub-contractor **is** going to disturb more than 6 sq feet of interior surfaces, 20 sq feet of exterior surfaces or windows, the sub-contractor **must** be a certified firm and perform appropriate tasks
- If the sub-contractor **is not** going to disturb more than 6 sq feet of interior surfaces, 20 sq feet of exterior surfaces or windows the sub-contractor needs to be aware of the following:
  - The requirements of keeping barriers up, intact and secured until cleaning verification is complete
  - The requirements of entering and exiting the contained work area
  - The requirement to be trained and certified if disturbing more than the minimum amount of paint