

Protecting the Public

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) RENOVATION, REPAIR and PAINTING (RRP) RULE

The Rule

EPA's RRP Rule protects the public and workers from lead-based paint hazards associated with renovation, repair and painting activities. These activities can create hazardous lead chips and dust when lead-based paint surfaces are disturbed. The rule requires firms to be lead-safe certified and at least one worker on the job site to be renovator certified.

Why the RRP Rule is Important

Even low levels of lead in the blood of children can cause serious impacts on the way children develop, learn and behave. Lead is also harmful to adults. Lead poisoning is 100% preventable.

Compliance with the RRP Rule not only protects children and workers, but also protects firms from costly enforcement actions and liability.

Who Must Comply With the RRP Rule?

All firms and individuals who receive compensation to perform RRP activities in pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Home improvement contractors.
- Property management and maintenance.
- Painters and other specialty trades.
- Window, door and floor replacements.
- School/daycare maintenance workers and contractors.



How to Become a Certified Renovator

For RRP training, visit: [EPA.gov/Lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead) and click on "Locate an RRP training class or provider" link to complete a search for upcoming trainings near you.

A Renovator certification is valid for five years. A Renovator refresher training must be completed before the initial training expires to maintain an active certification.

How to Become a Certified Firm

To check the status of or to certify your firm as Lead-Safe, visit: [EPA.gov/lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead).

Firm certification costs \$300 and is valid for five years.

When registering for firm certification, you must search your firm first, even if you know it's not certified. Once you complete the search, a "begin application to certify new firm" option will appear.

Sole proprietors must obtain firm certification.



Lead RRP Rule is Not The Same as Lead Abatement

RRP projects and lead abatement activities are two separate programs that are regulated differently by EPA and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). Both lead abatement and the RRP Rule apply to pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities, but the intention for doing the work is key in determining how to treat the worksite.

RRP RULE

- Intention is to complete routine renovation, repair, painting or maintenance work that will disturb lead-based paint as a consequence of the activity (includes interim controls).
- Eight-hour RRP Renovator training required.
- Firm certification with EPA required.

LEAD ABATEMENT

- Intention is to permanently eliminate known lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards.
- Thirty two-hour Lead Abatement Supervisor training required for the individual overseeing the job site.
- Twenty four-hour Lead Abatement Worker training required for staff working under the Supervisor.
- Company licensure with MDHHS required.

If the worksite is pre-1978, EPA assumes the presence of lead-based paint and the RRP Rule applies. Always use an EPA-certified Renovator or MI-certified lead inspector or risk assessor to test all components of your work area if you are testing to exempt out of the rule. In projects involving both lead abatement and renovation, the renovation work is usually completed first. Abatement work would proceed and it must conclude by passing a lead dust clearance test.

What Homeowners and Renters Should Know About RRP

If your home or childcare facility was built before 1978, you should assume the presence of lead-based paint. RRP is the law, and it protects you and your family from the harmful effects of lead.

- Ask to see the company's RRP firm certification.
- Ask to see the contractor's individual RRP Renovator certification.
- Talk with your contractor about lead-safe work practices. Ask about lead testing with EPA-approved lead test kits. Look for plastic containments in the work area, HEPA vacs and wet wipes for cleaning, clearing of objects from work area or covering large objects that cannot be removed.



For More Information

EPA

312-353-3808 or 1-800-424-LEAD

[EPA.gov/Lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead)

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

[Michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe/Professionals](https://www.michigan.gov/MiLeadSafe/Professionals)

Report Potential RRP Violations

If you see a potential RRP violation in your home or community, submit a tip online to EPA Region 5.

[Echo.EPA.gov/Report-Environmental-Violations](https://www.echo.epa.gov/Report-Environmental-Violations)