



For Immediate Release:

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New Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule – What Next

Benchmark Environmental, a Silicon Based Environmental Consulting firm has been instructing students nationally on the new 8 hour EPA lead-paint ruling for close to a year.

Benchmark teamed with Environmental Safety Training out of Rancho Cordova to provide this training to all trades working on pre-1978 buildings.

Common renovation activities like sanding, cutting, and demolition can create hazardous lead dust and chips by disturbing lead-based paint, which can be harmful to adults and children. To protect against this risk, on April 22, 2008, EPA issued a **rule requiring the use of lead-safe practices** and other actions aimed at preventing lead poisoning. Under the rule, beginning April 22, 2010, contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 must be certified and must follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination.

EPA requires that firms performing renovation, repair, and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in pre-1978 homes, child care facilities and schools be certified by EPA and that they use certified renovators who are trained by EPA-approved training providers to follow lead-safe work practices. Individuals can become certified renovators by taking an eight-hour training course from an EPA-approved training provider.

Once the student and their company are certified, they will be legally able to work on pre-1978 lead painted structures without risk of a \$32,500 fine.

For class information, contact Benchmark.

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