



The Vermont Lead Law requires owners of residential rental buildings and child care facilities built before 1978 to perform Inspection, Repair and Cleaning (IRC) Practices to help prevent people from being poisoned by lead. These are relatively inexpensive maintenance activities that reduce lead-based paint hazards.

How can I comply with the Lead Law?

- Assume all paint or coatings are lead-based, unless tested by a Vermont-licensed lead inspector.
- Take precautions to prevent the spread of lead dust and use safe practices.
- An IRC-certified person who has attended a Health Department approved training must perform IRC practices at least once a year. You can find a training schedule at www.leadSAFEvermont.org. These low-cost trainings are offered online and are self-paced.

How do I perform Inspection, Repair and Cleaning Practices?

Every year an IRC-certified person needs to:

- Inspect the painted and stained surfaces at property inside and outside.
- Identify areas where paint is in poor condition (chipping or peeling) and promptly have them fixed in a lead-safe way.
- If repairs needed are greater than 1 square foot per interior room or exterior side of a building, make sure it's done by a Vermont Lead-Safe RRPM licensed contractor. Learn more about Vermont Lead-Safe RRPM licensing and work practices here: www.healthvermont.gov/RRPM.
- Verify that all wooden windows have window well inserts.
- Remove any visible paint chips on the ground outside the building.
- Perform a specialized cleaning in common areas.
- Post a [notice for building occupants](#) to report chipping or damaged paint and provide them with the [Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home](#) booklet. These documents are online at www.healthvermont.gov/IRC.
- File a compliance statement at <http://secure.vermont.gov/VDH/emp> certifying that IRC practices have been done.
- Rental property owners must provide a copy of the statement to tenants, child care operators must post it in a prominent location in the child care, and both must provide a copy to their insurance carrier.

Need help filing an IRC Practices Compliance Statement?

Instructions on filing IRC Practices Compliance Statements are online at www.healthvermont.gov/IRC.

What types of work practices are prohibited?

The following practices are not allowed to be used:

- Dry scraping or sanding
- Use of powered tools
- Using chemical strippers
- Open flame burning or torching
- Heat guns operating above 1100°F
- Hydroblasting or high-pressure washing
- Abrasive blasting or sandblasting
- Dry sweeping lead-contaminated areas or surfaces

Doing renovation or repair work that will disturb lead-based paint?

In addition to IRC practices, if you are hiring a contractor to do renovation, repair, and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint of more than 1 square foot per interior room or exterior side of a building, you must use contractors who have Vermont Lead-Safe RRPM firm and supervisor licenses.

If you're a landlord, you can do the work yourself, but you also need the Vermont Lead-Safe RRPM licenses. Child care providers can apply for an Uncompensated Child Care Operator (UCCO) certificate to perform work on their child care only. Learn about Vermont Lead-Safe RRPM, find RRP training classes and apply for the RRPM or UCCO credentials here: www.healthvermont.gov/RRPM.

You can look up Vermont Lead-Safe RRPM licensed contractors here: tinyurl.com/RRPM-lookup.

By reducing lead hazards, you can help prevent lead poisoning

Dust from lead-based paint is the major source of lead poisoning among children. Lead poisoning can cause serious and permanent health problems, including behavioral and reproductive problems. Learn more at www.healthvermont.gov/lead.

For More Information

For more information about working with lead-based paint or asbestos when performing maintenance, repairs, renovation, or demolition on a building, visit www.healthvermont.gov/ALRP or email the Asbestos & Lead Regulatory Program at ALRP@vermont.gov with questions.

If you notice unsafe lead-based paint work practices being done, please submit a tip to our program at tinyurl.com/submit-lead-tip.

Find this information sheet online:

