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Lead-Based Paint Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are target housing and child-occupied facilities? Why is 1978 significant?

Target housing and child-occupied facilities are buildings where young children live or spend time and are more likely to contain lead paint if built **before 1978**. 1978 is the year residential lead-based paint was banned in the U.S. As a result, structures built before 1978 are considered at risk for containing lead-based paint. This matters because lead can harm children even at low exposure levels. To learn more about lead exposures, symptoms, and complications, please refer to the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention website](#).

2. What buildings are subject to the Arkansas State Board of Health's Rules about lead-based paint activities?

All target housing and child-occupied facilities are subject to the [Arkansas State Board of Health's Rules Pertaining to Lead-Based Paint Activities \(Arkansas Code §20-27-2501, et seq.\)](#).

3. What is abatement?

Abatement means taking steps to permanently remove or stop [the risk from lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust](#). This can include removing the paint and dust, sealing or covering the paint so it cannot harm you, replacing damaged surfaces, or covering up lead-contaminated soil.

4. What is renovation?

Renovation is the process of restoring broken or damaged structures. These projects can disrupt lead-based paint and expose people to lead-containing dust or airborne lead particles.

5. What is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) Program?

This program regulates remodeling or renovation projects for target housing and child-occupied facilities built before 1978. Learn more on the [EPA's RRP website](#).

6. What is pre-screening for lead?

Pre-screening for lead is a process used to determine if a building could have lead hazards present. It is typically done to see if an EPA-certified lead specialist should be consulted for further evaluation. A list of certified companies can be found on [ADH's Lead-Based Paint website](#).

7. Can a home inspector conduct pre-screening for lead if they do not disturb any lead-based paint?

Yes, a home inspector may inspect and document conditions if the lead-based paint is not disturbed. However, home inspectors cannot perform testing or risk assessments unless they are properly certified.

8. Can I safely repair lead-based paint myself?

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According to the Environmental Protection Agency's Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) rule, only EPA-certified RRP firms and workers are allowed to disturb lead-based paint. Learn more on the [EPA's RRP website](#).

9. If I want to remove lead-based paint from my home, who should I contact?

You can contact a licensed Lead Abatement Contractor to remove hazards. A list of certified companies can be found on [ADH's Lead-Based Paint website](#).

10. Does Medicaid cover blood lead screening reimbursement for pediatric patients?

Medicaid may provide reimbursement for blood lead screening for pediatric patients. Please contact the [Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services](#) at 501-682-8292.

If you have questions, please contact the Arkansas Department of Health's Lead-Based Paint Program at 501-671-1472 or ADH.LBP@arkansas.gov.