Why is the RRP rule important?

Common renovation activities like sanding, scraping and sawing can create hazardous lead dust. Lead enters the body by swallowing or breathing in lead dust.

- Lead poisoning can affect anyone, but is especially dangerous to children under 6 years of age. Children can swallow lead dust when they put their hands in their mouths while playing or eating. Lead paint dust and debris can be tracked into a home on a person’s feet or by a pet.
- In children, lead poisoning can cause reduced IQ, reading and learning difficulties, behavioral problems, brain, kidney and liver damage.
- If a pregnant woman is exposed to lead, the unborn child is also at risk.
- In adults, high lead levels may cause digestive, reproductive and kidney damage, nerve disorders and high blood pressure.

For more information, contact:

Oregon Lead-Based Paint Program
Phone: 971-673-0440
Toll-free: 1-877-290-6767
LeadLine (toll-free): 1-800-368-5060
www.healthoregon.org/lead

All contractors licensed through the Oregon Construction Contractors Board are also required to be RRP certified. Contractors may contact the CCB for certification information at 503-378-4621 or www.oregon.gov/CCB.
Beginning May 3, 2010, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) was approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to administer and enforce the Renovation, Repair and Painting rule as it applies to landlords, property managers, child care and schools. See the full Oregon Administrative Rule 333-070 at www.healthoregon.org/lead.

Safe renovation of old housing and buildings is the best way to protect Oregon children from lead poisoning. Unsafe home renovations and repair contribute to nearly half of the childhood lead poisonings in Oregon. Renovators who are not trained in lead-safe work practices risk exposing themselves and occupants to lead at the job site and exposing their own families by bringing lead dust home on their work clothes.

What is the Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) rule?
The RRP rule requires that individuals, companies and organizations that conduct renovation or maintenance on pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities be certified as a Renovation Firm. Certified Renovation Firms need to have at least one trained and certified renovator per project.

What is renovation?
Renovation is any activity that disturbs painted surfaces and includes most repair, remodeling, painting and maintenance activities. The RRP rule does not apply to lead inspection or abatement (work done for the specific purpose of permanently removing lead-based paint hazards rather than for improving and maintaining the property).

What type of housing and child-occupied facilities does the rule apply to?
Any housing and child-occupied facilities built before 1978. A child-occupied facility is a building that is regularly visited by the same child, under the age of 6. Child-occupied facilities may include child care centers, preschools and kindergarten classrooms.

How do I comply with the rule?
All covered renovations and repair must be performed by RRP Certified Renovation Firms using certified renovators and other trained workers. A firm is a company, partnership, corporation, sole proprietor or individual, school, property management company or landlord.

How do I become an RRP certified renovator?
Becoming a certified renovator requires successfully completing the Lead Safety for Renovation, Repair and Painting course. Accredited RRP trainers are listed at www.healthoregon.org/lead. The certificate of completion is good for five years. To maintain certification, renovators must take a refresher course taught by an accredited trainer prior to certificate expiration.

How do I become a Certified RRP Firm with the OHA?
• Employ at least one RRP Certified Renovator.
• Submit the application, fees and a copy of the certified renovator certificate to the OHA. Apply and pay online, OR, complete the application at www.healthoregon.org/lead (Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule (RRP)), print, and mail with payment and copy of certified renovator certificate.
• Firm certifications are $250 and are valid for five years.
• Construction Contractors Board (CCB) licensed contractors must apply with CCB and are not required to be certified by the OHA.

What if I don't comply with the RRP rule?
Companies or organizations found to be non-compliant may be liable for civil penalties of up to $5,000 per violation, per day.