



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
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U.S. EPA Extends Deadline for Complying With Lead-Based Paint Training Rule

BISMARCK, N.D. – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has extended the deadlines for renovation firms and workers to obtain necessary training and certifications to comply with the new federal renovation, remodeling and painting (RRP) rule.

According to the EPA, the rule is intended to protect children from leaded dust that may result from disturbing lead-based paint. The new federal rule requires that anyone paid to repair, remodel or paint in homes, child-care facilities and schools built before 1978 must be certified by the EPA and follow lead-safe work practice standards to prevent lead contamination. Owners conducting repairs in their own homes are not covered by this rule (unless they receive compensation, such as landlords).

The deadlines are:

- Renovation firms must be certified by Oct. 1, 2010.
- Individual renovation workers must apply to enroll in – or be enrolled in – a certified renovator training class by Sept. 30, 2010. The training must be completed by Dec. 31, 2010.

If the deadlines are not met, EPA indicates it will take enforcement actions for violation of the EPA RRP rule.

Contractors, property managers, maintenance personnel and others can register for the EPA-RRP Lead Remodelers and Renovators Certification course by contacting the University of North Dakota Environmental Training Institute at www.eti.und.edu or by phone at 701.777.0384. Some local homebuilder's association offices also are offering courses.

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For more information about the new federal rule, contact Michelle Reichmuth, regional lead coordinator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, at 303.312.6966 or Sandi Washek, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.5188. Information also is available at www.ndhealth.gov/AQ/IAQ/LBP.

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