

LEAD IN PAINT POLICY

(For assistance, please contact EHS at (402) 472-4925, or visit our web site at <http://ehs.unl.edu/>)

Purpose:

Lead is a recognized health hazard, and consequently, regulations have been developed to assure protection from excessive exposure to lead. Paints and coatings manufactured prior to 1978 often contained lead, sometimes in significant quantities. Renovation of buildings built prior to 1978 may involve disturbing surfaces coated with lead paint or primer, potentially exposing University employees and contractors to lead. In order to inform University maintenance personnel and contractors regarding the presence of lead in surface coatings so that they can comply with regulatory requirements; and to assure that work with lead containing materials is conducted in a manner which does not expose University personnel to health risks from lead, the Lead in Paint Policy is immediately effective.

Lead in Paint Policy:

1. For buildings built prior to 1978, representative painted surfaces shall be tested for any detectable amount of lead prior to conducting any building renovation work in-house or by contract which requires that painted or coated surfaces be demolished, sanded, scraped, cut, drilled, welded, blasted, or treated in any manner which generates airborne dust or fumes from that surface.
2. Testing for lead shall be conducted by University or contract personnel who are trained in the conduct of such tests. Initial screening of surfaces shall use XRF instrumentation. When levels of lead are below the limit of detection for the instrument, random bulk samples shall be collected and analyzed for lead to determine if lead is present at a lower level than can be detected by XRF. Any bulk samples collected for lead shall be analyzed by a laboratory demonstrated to have proficiency for lead analysis.
3. All results of lead tests shall be compiled by Environmental Health and Safety (EHS). If tests are conducted by non-EHS personnel, a copy of the test results shall be forwarded to EHS. In addition, the University representative overseeing the in-house or contract work shall be notified of the test results.
4. If no lead is detected, no further action is necessary. If lead is detected, action is necessary to assure that work is conducted in accordance with regulatory requirements. The University representative overseeing the work shall contact EHS to determine the action necessary for compliance with regulatory requirements and to assure that appropriate protection is provided for University personnel.

Signed by Chancellor James C. Moeser on October 3, 1996.