

## US EPA Lead-Based Paint Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rules

### What are the RRP Rules?

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has adopted rules for contractors performing work that disturbs lead-based paint. The rules, known as the RRP rules, apply to renovation, repair, painting or any other activity that disturbs painted surfaces. These rules require that contractors performing work in housing built before 1978 or in child-occupied facilities (schools or day care centers) be certified by the EPA. The certified renovator must be trained in lead-safe work practices through completion of an EPA-accredited course and is responsible for compliance with the US EPA rules. The contractor is also required to distribute a lead pamphlet before starting work. The rules exempt work that will disturb six square feet or less of paint per room in the building's interior or 20 square feet of painted surface or less on the exterior. Work in buildings that have been tested and found to be free of lead-based paint is also exempt.

**The deadline for contractors to be certified has been extended to October 1, 2010.** (Individuals must enroll in a certified class by September 30, 2010 and must complete the class by December 31, 2010.)

### Who is responsible for enforcement of these rules?

States may apply to the US EPA for authorization to administer this program. The EPA is the enforcement agency in states that do not apply for authorization. New Jersey has *not* applied. This means that the EPA is the enforcement agency for the RRP rules in New Jersey.

**Is the EPA certification to be treated as a prior approval for obtaining a permit under the UCC? No. Does the code official have any enforcement responsibility with regard to these EPA rules? No.** As stated above, enforcement rests with the EPA. This information has been provided to you so that you are aware of the new EPA requirements and are able to respond to questions from homeowners or contractors. If anyone has further questions or would like additional information, you may direct them to the EPA website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovation.htm>. There is also a link on the Division's webpage.