



# Lead Related Construction News

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch (CLPPB)  
California Department of Health Services (CDHS)

Volume 1 Number 1

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## Staying in touch with CDHS certified lead professionals

The Lead Related Construction News (LRC News) is being produced as another tool to help eliminate lead poisoning arising from construction activities. It is intended to provide up-to-date lead-related information to Certified Lead professionals between their biannual continuing education trainings.

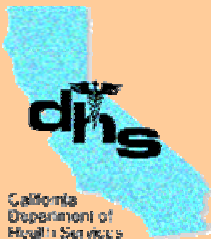
You will find many links to useful government sites and contact information to assist you in staying current with regulatory changes. For those who print this newsletter out in hardcopy, a list of the actual URLs can be found on the last page.

Contact LRC NEWS with suggestions, feedback and items for future issues. Send comments to [cclass@dhs.ca.gov](mailto:cclass@dhs.ca.gov).

Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor  
State of California



Kimberly Belshé  
Secretary  
Health and Human Services  
Agency



Sandra Shewry  
Director  
Department of Health Services

## Enforcement Training

The California Department of Health Services, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch (CDHS/CLPPB) provides training for building, housing, and health agency staff regarding laws which govern lead hazards in housing and public buildings. The training is primarily targeted to individuals involved with substandard housing inspections (code enforcement) and building permit activities (remodeling).

The training enables attendees to:

- Identify what constitutes a “lead hazard;”
- Identify applicable laws and the respective roles/responsibilities of health, housing, and building agencies;
- Outline what the law’s provisions are related to enforcement agencies and what activities are optional; and
- Identify resources.

Over 3,000 building department staff have been trained since 2003. If you know building department and/or code enforcement agencies interested in scheduling one of these trainings, please have them contact Dan Scannell at [dscannell@dhs.ca.gov](mailto:dscannell@dhs.ca.gov).

## Document Forger Convicted

The Lead-Related Construction Program has scored a victory in its efforts to protect the State’s children from lead poisoning. A contractor pleaded no contest in Los Angeles County Superior Court to three felony counts of submitting false documentation to a governmental agency, and three counts of felony forgery of documents showing lead-related construction certification. This is the first time the State has prosecuted a case specifically against an individual who knowingly falsified lead certification documents.

Lead training and certification was specified by the Los Angeles Police Department in a contract to renovate their firing ranges. The owner of a maintenance company bid on the contract, even though he did not meet the lead certification requirement. Instead of trying to become certified, he elected to forge training and certification documentation for himself and others in his company in an effort to show they already met the requirements.

After the contractor pled no contest to the six felony counts, the court ordered him to

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## CDHS Targets Unsafe Workpractices

We at CDHS appreciate the efforts all of certified lead professionals. You put a lot of work into becoming trained and certified to do lead work safely and effectively, furthering our goal of eliminating childhood lead poisoning.

There are those out there who claim to be qualified to do lead-related work without being certified. This includes those attempting to perform lead-hazard evaluations, such as site assessments, and sampling for lead while claiming "it's not really a lead hazard evaluation." Others do abatement, but claim to not need certification because "that's really not our intent." Many of these people create lead hazards.

You can help us, as well as yourselves, by forwarding information you have about non-certified people performing lead work without certification, or individuals using unsafe work practices and creating lead hazards. Please contact the CLPPB at 510-620-5600 and ask to speak to anyone in the Compliance and Enforcement Unit or the Lead-Related Construction Unit. A list of [local building officials](#)<sup>(1)</sup> is on our website, as well as a [list of local childhood lead poisoning programs](#)<sup>(2)</sup>

### Protection factor of 10 coming soon to a face mask near you?



## Are employees taking lead home to their families?

Each year, the [Occupational Lead Poisoning Prevention Program \(OLPPP\)](#)<sup>(3)</sup> and local health departments investigate many cases of what is called "take-home" lead exposure. Employers, workers and health care providers are often unaware of this issue.

### What is "take-home" lead exposure?

Take-home lead exposure occurs when a worker wears his or her dirty work clothes and shoes home, thus carrying lead dust from the workplace to the home. This invisible toxic dust settles in the car, on the furniture and floors, and in the carpets of a house or apartment. Young children can swallow this lead dust and be poisoned since they often play on the floor and put their hands in their mouths.

### What should be done to prevent take-home lead exposure?

There are many things you can do to prevent take-home lead exposure. Consult the list of mandated measures in [Title 8, 1532.1](#)<sup>(4)</sup>, some of which include

#### Employers:

- Reduce lead dust and fumes;
- Provide hand washing facilities;
- Use HEPA vacuuming or wet clean-up methods;
- Conduct training on lead-safe work practices;
- Provide clean work clothes and shoes;
- Provide separate storage containers for work and street clothes;
- Provide a clean changing area;
- Provide shower facilities.

Remember, you could be liable for lead-poisoned children.

### New Respirator Protection Factors

The US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has adopted new [respirator protection factors](#)<sup>(6)</sup>. Cal/OSHA has proposed [changes to Title 8 §1532.1](#)<sup>(7)</sup> to adopt new standards at least as protective as the new federal standards.

#### Employees:

- Wash hands and face at the end of the shift;
- Wear work clothes and shoes provided by the employer;
- Change into clean clothes and shoes before leaving work;
- Do not wear work clothes and shoes in vehicles;
- Take a shower at work or as soon as you get home;
- Keep work clothes and shoes separate from clean clothes and shoes; and
- Ask your doctor to test your children for lead.

Prevent take-home lead before it happens! The devastating effects of childhood lead poisoning due to take-home lead are entirely preventable. This can only happen if employers and employees each take their responsibilities seriously.

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## California Department of Health Services To Be Reorganized

On September 14, 2006, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Senate Bill 162 (Ortiz). The bill reorganizes CDHS into two new Departments – the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the California Department of Health Care Services (CDHCS). The split will be effective July 1, 2007.

The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch will be in the new CDPH. For training and certification purposes, you should notice few changes. Contact phone numbers and addresses should stay the same. We will provide more information as the date for the change nears. Meanwhile, you can read about the reorganization at the [CDHS web site](#)<sup>(5)</sup>

One significant change is assigning protection factors to "filtering facepiece" air purifying respirators.

DHS-certified lead professionals should become familiar with the new regulation as it becomes effective, and be sure to comply with the requirements.

## New Waste Manifest

A new federal manifest is now required. A link to DTSC's supplemental instructions for the manifest is below. This is current information you may not pick up prior to your next Continuing Education training.

Link to: [New Manifest](#) <sup>(8)</sup>

*Make sure you keep up with the changes in the lead abatement industry, including: regulations, technology and certification. Your CDHS certification must be renewed every year. Every second year you must attend continuing education training to be qualified for recertification. Your certification is valuable. Keep it current!*

## Reaching Out to the Hispanic Community

Lead poisoning not only has a disproportionate affect on the Hispanic community, but the same community is also an important partner in addressing the problem. To help increase the involvement of the Hispanic community, CDHS approves lead-related construction training in Spanish, which has been used by over half of the trainees. The Supervisor training is now available in Spanish, as well as the State exam for Supervisors. The [CLPPB](#) <sup>(20)</sup> website will soon have a parallel site in Spanish. Visit the site for updates.

## Alternative Sources of Lead Exposure

All certified inspector/assessors are aware of the most common sources of lead exposure: deteriorated lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and lead contaminated soil. Most have heard of less common potential sources of exposure such as home remedies, cookware and tableware, take-home lead from the workplace, and hobbies like fishing, firearms, and stained glass.

A sampling of the unusual potential sources of lead exposure that made the news in the past year includes:

- A child died of lead poisoning in February after swallowing a lead jewelry trinket. ([Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report trinket link](#)) <sup>(10)</sup>
- Libraries nationwide gave away bendable toys that turned out to have lead paint [Consumer Product Safety Commission site](#) <sup>(11)</sup>.
- CDHS alerted the public about imported sweet [cured plums](#) <sup>(12)</sup> containing high levels of lead.

Though not a complete list, some good places to look to stay abreast of lead hazards and recalls are listed below:

- [CDHS Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch](#) <sup>(13)</sup>.
- [National Safety Council](#) <sup>(14)</sup> (Note the list of Alerts)
- [CDC](#) <sup>(15)</sup> (CDC focus on lead exposure relating to health)
- [EPA](#) <sup>(16)</sup> (EPA lead page)
- [CPSC](#) <sup>(17)</sup> (Lead in products: sign up for the recall announcement e-mail)
- [FDA](#) <sup>(18)</sup> (Warnings and recalls about food)
- [Recalls by Government](#) <sup>(19)</sup> (Federal agency recalls consolidated).

## TITLE 17 Update

The public comment period for the updated Title 17 runs from April 13 to Jun 5. Visit the [CLPPB](#) <sup>(20)</sup> website for more information.

(Document Forger - continued from page 1)

perform 100 hours of community service, and to pay \$10,000 in restitution to compensate for the economic losses suffered by the State due to his crimes. He will be on probation until he successfully completes the requirements ordered by the court.

The CDHS's response to this and other reports of fraudulent training and certification documentation demonstrates it will not tolerate activities that harm California's most vulnerable population, its children.

For information on becoming lead certified, contact the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch at (510) 620-5600, or visit [CLPPB](#) <sup>(20)</sup>.

## Web Links

- 1) [www.dhs.ca.gov/childlead/pdfs/ComplaintContacts.pdf](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/childlead/pdfs/ComplaintContacts.pdf)
- 2) [www.dhs.ca.gov/childlead/html/POclpppC.html#clpppC](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/childlead/html/POclpppC.html#clpppC)
- 3) [www.dhs.ca.gov/ohb/OLPPP/Default.htm](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ohb/OLPPP/Default.htm)
- 4) [www.dhs.ca.gov/ohb/olppp/regulations.htm](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ohb/olppp/regulations.htm)
- 5) [www.dhs.ca.gov/](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/)
- 6) [www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=NEWS\\_RELEASES&p\\_id=12373](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=12373)
- 7) [www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb/respiratorprotectio factors0.html](http://www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb/respiratorprotectio factors0.html)
- 8) [www.dtsc.ca.gov/IDManifest/upload/HWMManifest\\_SupCAManInstr.pdf](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/IDManifest/upload/HWMManifest_SupCAManInstr.pdf)
- 8) [www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/gener/manifest/pdf/newform.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/gener/manifest/pdf/newform.pdf)
- 8) [www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/gener/manifest/registry/printers.htm#form](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/gener/manifest/registry/printers.htm#form)
- 9) [www.nelcc.uconn.edu/resources.html](http://www.nelcc.uconn.edu/resources.html)
- 10) [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/m5512a4.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/m5512a4.htm)
- 11) [www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml06/06236.html](http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml06/06236.html)
- 12) [www.applications.dhs.ca.gov/pressreleases/store/pressreleases/05-84.html](http://www.applications.dhs.ca.gov/pressreleases/store/pressreleases/05-84.html)
- 13) [www.dhs.ca.gov/childlead/](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/childlead/)
- 14) [www.nsc.org/issues/lead/](http://www.nsc.org/issues/lead/)
- 15) [www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/](http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/)
- 16) [www.epa.gov/opptintr/lead/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/lead/index.html)
- 17) [www.cpsc.gov/](http://www.cpsc.gov/)
- 18) [www.fda.gov/](http://www.fda.gov/)
- 19) [www.recalls.gov/](http://www.recalls.gov/)
- 20) [www.dhs.ca.gov/childlead/](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/childlead/)