

**RULES GOVERNING  
CHILDHOOD LEAD  
POISONING PREVENTION  
PROGRAM  
15A NCAC 18A .3100**

**NORTH CAROLINA**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION**

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(updated 7/2017)

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**§ 130A-131.6. Reserved for future codification purposes.**

**§ 130A-131.7. Definitions.**

The following definitions apply in this Part:

- (1) "Abatement" means undertaking any of the following measures to eliminate a lead-based paint hazard: a. Removing lead-based paint from a surface and repainting the surface. b. Removing a component, such as a windowsill, painted with lead-based paint and replacing the component. c. Enclosing a surface painted with lead-based paint with paneling, vinyl siding, or another approved material. d. Encapsulating a surface painted with lead-based paint with a sealant. e. Any other measure approved by the Commission.
- (2) "Child-occupied facility" means a building, or portion of a building, constructed before 1978, regularly visited by a child who is less than six years of age. Child-occupied facilities may include, but are not limited to, child care facilities, preschools, nurseries, kindergarten classrooms, schools, clinics, or treatment centers including the common areas, the grounds, any outbuildings, or other structures appurtenant to the facility"
- (3) "Confirmed lead poisoning" means a blood lead concentration of 10 micrograms per deciliter or greater determined by the lower of two consecutive blood tests within a 12-month period.
- (4) "Department" means the Department of Environmental Quality or its authorized agent.
- (5) "Elevated blood lead level" means a blood lead concentration of five micrograms per deciliter or greater determined by the lower of two consecutive blood tests within a 12-month period.
- (6) "Lead-based paint hazard" means a condition that is likely to result in exposure to lead-based paint or to soil or dust that contains lead at a concentration that constitutes a lead poisoning hazard.
- (7) "Lead poisoning hazard" means any of the following:
  - a. Any lead-based paint or other substance that contains lead in an amount equal to or greater than 1.0 milligrams lead per square centimeter as determined by X-ray fluorescence or five-tenths of a percent (0.5%) lead by weight as determined by chemical analysis: (i) on any readily accessible substance or chewable surface on which there is evidence of teeth marks or mouthing; or (ii) on any other deteriorated or otherwise damaged interior or exterior surface.
  - b. Any substance that contains lead intended for use by children less than six years of age in an amount equal to or greater than 0.06 percent (0.06%) lead by weight as determined by chemical analysis.
  - c. Any concentration of lead dust that is equal to or greater than 40 micrograms per square foot on floors or 250 micrograms per square foot on interior windowsills, vinyl miniblinds, bathtubs, kitchen sinks, or lavatories.

- d. Any lead-based paint or other substance that contains lead on a friction or impact surface that is subject to abrasion, rubbing, binding, or damage by repeated contact and where the lead dust concentrations on the nearest horizontal surface underneath the friction or impact surface are equal to or greater than 40 micrograms per square foot on floors or 250 micrograms per square foot on interior windowsills.
  - e. Any concentration of lead in bare soil in play areas, gardens, pet sleeping areas, and areas within three feet of a residential housing unit or child-occupied facility equal to or greater than 400 parts per million. Any concentration of lead in bare soil in other locations of the yard equal to or greater than 1,200 parts per million.
  - f. Any ceramic ware generating equal to or greater than three micrograms of lead per milliliter of leaching solution for flatware or 0.5 micrograms of lead per milliliter for cups, mugs, and pitchers as determined by Method 973.32 of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists.
  - g. Any concentration of lead in drinking water equal to or greater than 15 parts per billion.
- (8) "Lead-safe housing" is housing that was built since 1978 or has been tested by a person that has been certified to perform risk assessments and found to have no lead-based paint hazard within the meaning of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Reduction Act of 1992, 42 U.S.C. § 4851b (15).
- (9) "Maintenance standard" means the following:
- a. Using safe work practices, repairing and repainting areas of deteriorated paint inside a residential housing unit and for single-family and duplex residential dwelling built before 1950, repairing and repainting areas of deteriorated paint on interior and exterior surfaces;
  - b. Cleaning the interior of the unit to remove dust that constitutes a lead poisoning hazard;
  - c. Adjusting doors and windows to minimize friction or impact on surfaces;
  - d. Subject to the occupant's approval, appropriately cleaning any carpets;
  - e. Taking such steps as are necessary to ensure that all interior surfaces on which dust might collect are readily cleanable; and
  - f. Providing the occupant or occupants all information required to be provided under the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, and amendments thereto.
- (10) "Managing agent" means any person who has charge, care, or control of a building or part thereof in which dwelling units or rooming units are leased.
- (11), (12) Repealed by Session Laws 2003-150, s. 1, effective July 1, 2003.
- (13) "Readily accessible substance" means any substance that can be ingested or inhaled by a child less than six years of age or by a pregnant woman. Readily accessible substances include deteriorated paint that is peeling, chipping, cracking, flaking, or blistering to the extent that the paint has separated from the substrate. Readily accessible substances also include soil, water, toys, vinyl miniblinds, bathtubs, lavatories, doors, door jambs, stairs, stair rails, windows, interior windowsills, baseboards, and paint that is chalking.

- (14) "Regularly visits" means the presence at a residential housing unit or child-occupied facility on at least two different days within any week, provided that each day's visit lasts at least three hours and the combined weekly visits last at least six hours, and the combined annual visits last at least 60 hours.
- (15) "Remediation" means the elimination or control of lead poisoning hazards by methods approved by the Department.
- (16) "Residential housing unit" means a dwelling, dwelling unit, or other structure, all or part of which is designed or used for human habitation, including the common areas, the grounds, any outbuildings, or other structures appurtenant to the residential housing unit.
- (17) "Supplemental address" means a residential housing unit or child-occupied facility where a child with confirmed lead poisoning regularly visits or attends. Supplemental address also means a residential housing unit or child-occupied facility where a child resided, regularly visited, or attended within the six months immediately preceding the determination of confirmed lead poisoning. (1997-443, ss. 11A.123, 15.30(b); 1998-209, s. 2; 2003-150, s. 1; 2015-241, s. 14.30(u); 2017-57, s. 11E.6(b).)

**§ 130A-131.8. Laboratory reports.**

- (a) All laboratories doing business in this State shall report to the Department all environmental lead test results and blood lead test results for children less than six years of age and for individuals whose ages are unknown at the time of testing. Reports shall be made by electronic submission within five working days after test completion.
- (b) Reports of blood lead test results shall contain all of the following:
  - (1) The child's full name, date of birth, sex, race, ethnicity, address, and Medicaid number, if any.
  - (2) The name, address, and telephone number of the requesting health care provider.
  - (3) The name, address, and telephone number of the testing laboratory.
  - (4) The laboratory results, whether the specimen type is venous or capillary; the laboratory sample number, and the dates the sample was collected and analyzed.
- (c) Reports of environmental lead test results shall contain all of the following:
  - (1) The address where the samples were collected.
  - (2) Sample type, such as dust, paint, soil, or water.
  - (3) Surface type, such as floor, window sill, or window trough.
  - (4) Collection location.
  - (5) The name, address, and telephone number of the testing laboratory.
  - (6) The laboratory results, unit of measurement, the laboratory sample number, and the dates the sample was collected and analyzed. (1997-443, s. 15.30(b); 2003-150, s. 2; 2009-484, s. 1.)

**§ 130A-131.9. Examination and testing.**

When the Department has a reasonable suspicion that a child less than six years of age has an elevated blood lead level or a confirmed lead poisoning, the Department may require that child to be examined and tested within 30 days. The Department shall require from the owner, managing agent, or tenant of the residential housing unit or

child-occupied facility information on each child who resides in, regularly visits, or attends, or, who has within the past six months, resided in, regularly visited, or attended the unit or facility. The information required shall include each child's name and date of birth, the names and addresses of each child's parents, legal guardian, or full-time custodian. The owner, managing agent, or tenant shall submit the required information within 10 days of receipt of the request from the Department. (1997-443, s. 15.30(b); 2003-150, s. 3.)

**§ 130A-131.9A. Investigation to identify lead poisoning hazards.**

(a) When the Department learns of confirmed lead poisoning, the Department shall conduct an investigation to identify the lead poisoning hazards to children and pregnant women. The Department shall investigate the residential housing unit where the child or pregnant woman with confirmed lead poisoning resides. The Department shall also investigate the supplemental addresses of the child or pregnant woman who has confirmed lead poisoning

(a1) When the Department learns of an elevated blood lead level, the Department shall, upon informed consent, investigate the residential housing unit where the child or pregnant woman with the elevated blood level resides. When consent to investigate is denied, the child or pregnant woman with the elevated blood lead level cannot be located, or the child's parent or guardian fails to respond, the Department shall document the denial of consent, inability to locate, or failure to respond.

(b) The Department shall also conduct an investigation when it reasonably suspects that a lead poisoning hazard to children or pregnant women exists in a residential housing unit or child-occupied facility occupied, regularly visited, or attended by a child less than six years of age or pregnant woman.

(c) In conducting an investigation, the Department may take samples of surface materials, or other materials suspected of containing lead, for analysis and testing. If samples are taken, chemical determination of the lead content of the samples shall be by atomic absorption spectroscopy or equivalent methods approved by the Department. (1997-443, s. 15.30(b); 2003-150, s. 4; 2017-57, s. 11E.6(c).)

**§ 130A-131.9B. Notification.**

Upon determination that a lead poisoning hazard exists, the Department shall give written notice of the lead poisoning hazard to the owner or managing agent of the residential housing unit or child-occupied facility and to all persons residing in, attending, or regularly visiting the unit or facility. The written notice to the owner or managing agent shall include a list of possible methods of remediation. (1997-443, s. 15.30(b); 2003-150, s. 5.)

**§ 130A-131.9C. Remediation.**

(a) Upon determination that a child less than six years of age or a pregnant woman has a confirmed lead poisoning of 10 micrograms per deciliter or greater and that child or pregnant woman resides in a residential housing unit containing lead poisoning hazards, the Department shall require remediation of the lead poisoning hazards. The Department shall also require remediation of the lead poisoning hazards identified at the supplemental addresses of a child less than six years of age or a pregnant woman with a confirmed lead poisoning of 10 micrograms per deciliter or greater.

- (b) When remediation of lead poisoning hazards is required under subsection (a) of this section, the owner or managing agent shall submit a written remediation plan to the Department within 14 days of receipt of the lead poisoning hazard notification and shall obtain written approval of the plan before initiating remediation activities. The remediation plan shall comply with subsections (g), (h), and (i) of this section.
- (c) If the remediation plan submitted fails to meet the requirements of this section, the Department shall issue an order requiring submission of a modified plan. The order shall indicate the modifications that shall be made to the remediation plan and the date that the plan as modified shall be submitted to the Department.
- (d) If the owner or managing agent does not submit a remediation plan within 14 days, the Department shall issue an order requiring submission of a remediation plan within five days of receipt of the order.
- (e) The owner or managing agent shall notify the Department and the occupants of the dates of remediation activities at least three days before commencement of the activities.
- (f) Remediation of the lead poisoning hazards shall be completed within 60 days of the Department's approval of the remediation plan. If the remediation activities are not completed within 60 days, the Department shall issue an order requiring completion of the activities. An owner or managing agent may apply to the Department for an extension of the deadline. The Department may issue an order extending the deadline for 30 days upon proper written application by the owner or managing agent.
- (g) All of the following methods of remediation of lead-based paint hazards are prohibited:
  - (1) Stripping paint on-site with methylene chloride-based solutions.
  - (2) Torch or flame burning.
  - (3) Heating paint with a heat gun above 1,100 degrees Fahrenheit.
  - (4) Covering with new paint or wallpaper unless all readily accessible lead-based paint has been removed.
  - (5) Uncontrolled abrasive blasting, machine sanding, or grinding, except when used with High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) exhaust control that removes particles of 0.3 microns or larger from the air at ninety-nine and seven-tenths percent (99.7%) or greater efficiency.
  - (6) Uncontrolled waterblasting.
  - (7) Dry scraping, unless used in conjunction with heat guns, or around electrical outlets, or when treating no more than two square feet on interior surfaces, or no more than 20 square feet on exterior surfaces.
- (h) All lead-containing waste and residue shall be removed and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, State, and local laws and rules. Other substances containing lead that are intended for use by children less than

six years of age or pregnant women and vinyl miniblinds that constitute a lead poisoning hazard shall be removed and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, State, and local laws and rules.

- (i) All remediation plans shall require that the lead poisoning hazards be reduced to the following levels:
  - (1) Fewer than 40 micrograms per square foot for lead dust on floors.
  - (2) Fewer than 250 micrograms per square foot for lead dust on interior windowsills, bathtubs, kitchen sinks, and lavatories.
  - (3) Fewer than 400 micrograms per square foot for lead dust on window troughs.
  - (4) Fewer than 400 parts per million for lead in bare soil in play areas, gardens, pet sleeping areas, and areas within three feet of the residential housing unit or child-occupied facility. Lead in bare soil in other locations of the yard shall be reduced to less than 1,200 parts per million.
  - (5) Fewer than 15 parts per billion for lead in drinking water.
- (j) The Department shall verify by visual inspection that the approved remediation plan has been completed. The Department may also verify plan completion by residual lead dust monitoring and soil or drinking water lead level measurement.
  - (j1) Compliance with the maintenance standard satisfies the remediation requirements for confirmed lead poisoning cases identified on or after 1 October 1990 as long as all lead poisoning hazards identified on interior and exterior surfaces are addressed by remediation. Except for owner-occupied residential housing units, continued compliance shall be verified by means of an annual monitoring inspection conducted by the Department. For owner-occupied residential housing units, continued compliance shall be verified (i) by means of an annual monitoring inspection, (ii) by documentation that no child less than six years of age and no pregnant woman has resided in or regularly visited the residential housing unit within the past year, or (iii) by documentation that no child less than six years of age and no pregnant woman residing in or regularly visiting the unit has an elevated blood lead level.
- (k) Removal of children or pregnant women from the residential housing unit or child-occupied facility shall not constitute remediation if the property continues to be used for a residential housing unit or child-occupied facility. The remediation requirements imposed in subsection (a) of this section apply so long as the property continues to be used as a residential housing unit or child-occupied facility. (1997-443, s. 15.30(b); 1998-209, s. 3; 2003-150, s. 6; 2017-57, s. 11E.6(d).)

**§ 130A-131.9D. Effect of compliance with maintenance standard.**

Any owner of a residential housing unit constructed prior to 1978 who is sued by a current or former occupant seeking damages for injuries allegedly arising from exposure to lead-based paint or lead-contaminated dust, shall not be deemed liable (i) for any injuries sustained by that occupant after the owner first complied with the maintenance standard defined under G.S. 130A-131.7 provided the owner has repeated the steps



provided for in the maintenance standard annually for units in which children of less than six years of age have resided or regularly visited within the past year and obtained a certificate of compliance under G.S. 130A-131.9E annually during such occupancy; or (ii) if the owner is able to show by other documentation that compliance with the maintenance standard has been maintained during the period when the injuries were sustained; or (iii) if the owner is able to show that the unit was lead-safe housing containing no lead-based paint hazards during the period when the injuries were sustained. (1997-443, s. 15.30(b); 1998-209, s. 4.)

**§ 130A-131.9E. Certificate of evidence of compliance.**

An owner of a unit who has complied with the maintenance standard may apply annually to the Department for a certificate of compliance. Upon presentation of acceptable proof of compliance, the Department shall provide to the owner a certificate evidencing compliance. The Department may issue a certificate based solely on information provided by the owner and may revoke the certificate upon showing that any of the information is erroneous or inadequate, or upon finding that the unit is no longer in compliance with the maintenance standard. (1997-443, s. 15.30(b).)

**§ 130A-131.9F. Discrimination in financing.**

- (a) No bank or financial institution in the business of lending money for the purchase, sale, construction, rehabilitation, improvement, or refinancing of real property of the lending of money secured by an interest in real property may refuse to make such loans merely because of the presence of lead-based paint on the residential real property or in the residential housing unit provided that the owner is in compliance with the maintenance standard and has obtained a certificate of compliance under G.S. 130A-131.9E annually.
- (b) Nothing in this section shall (i) require a financial institution to extend a loan or otherwise provide financial assistance if it is clearly evident that health-related issues, other than those related to lead-based paint, made occupancy of the housing accommodation an imminent threat to the health or safety of the occupant, or (ii) be construed to preclude a financial institution from considering the fair market value of the property which will secure the proposed loan.
- (c) Failure to meet the maintenance standard shall not be deemed a default under existing mortgages. (1997-443, s. 15.30(b).)

**§ 130A-131.9G. Resident responsibilities.**

In any residential housing unit occupied by a child less than six years of age or a pregnant woman who has an elevated blood lead level of five micrograms per deciliter or greater, the Department shall advise, in writing, the owner or managing agent and the pregnant woman or the child's parents or legal guardian of the importance of carrying out routine cleaning activities in the units they occupy, own, or manage. The cleaning activities shall include all of the following:

- (1) Wiping clean all windowsills with a damp cloth or sponge at least weekly.
- (2) Regularly washing all surfaces accessible to children.

- (3) In the case of a leased residential housing unit, identifying any deteriorated paint in the unit and notifying the owner or managing agent of the conditions within 72 hours of discovery.
- (4) Identifying and understanding potential lead poisoning hazards in the environment of each child less than six years of age and each pregnant woman in the unit (including toys, vinyl miniblinds, playground equipment, drinking water, soil, and painted surfaces), and taking steps to prevent children and pregnant women from ingesting lead such as encouraging children and pregnant women to wash their faces and hands frequently and especially after playing outdoors. (1997-443, s. 15.30(b); 2003-150, s. 7; 2017-57, s. 11E.6(e).)

**§ 130A-131.9H. Application fees for certificates of compliance.**

The Department shall collect an application fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each certificate of compliance. Fee receipts shall be used to support the program that is developed to implement this Part. Fee receipts also may be used to provide for relocation and medical expenses incurred by children with confirmed lead poisoning. (1998-209, s. 5.)

**SECTION .3100 - CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM****15A NCAC 18A .3101 DEFINITIONS**

As used in this article, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (1) "Inspection" is a surface by surface investigation to determine the presence of lead-based paint and may include dust and soil sampling and a report of the results.
- (2) "Risk assessment" is an on-site investigation of a residential housing unit to discover any lead-based paint hazards. A risk assessment includes:
  - (a) an investigation of the age, history, management, and maintenance of the residential housing unit;
  - (b) the number of children less than six years old and women of child-bearing potential who are residents;
  - (c) a visual assessment;
  - (d) limited environmental sampling; and
  - (e) preparation of a report identifying acceptable abatement, remediation, and interim control strategies based on specific conditions.
- (3) "Safe work practices" are methods used to avoid creating lead-based paint hazards during on-site work that disturbs paint that may contain lead. Such methods include:
  - (a) taking precautions to prevent the spread of lead-contaminated dust by limiting access to the work area to workers only until final cleanup is completed and by having workers remove protective clothing such as gloves and shoes before leaving the work area;
  - (b) covering the work area including doorways and sealing floors, closets, and cabinets with heavy duty polyethylene plastic secured with duct tape or the equivalent;
  - (c) For exterior surfaces, securing heavy duty polyethylene plastic on the ground from the foundation extending 10 feet beyond the perimeter of the work area;
  - (d) shutting off the heating, ventilation, and cooling system and covering heating, ventilation, and cooling registers with heavy duty polyethylene plastic secured with duct tape or the equivalent;
  - (e) protecting workers by providing necessary protective equipment, training, and cleanup equipment and by not allowing eating, drinking, chewing gum or tobacco, or smoking in the work area;
  - (f) protecting occupants which may include temporary relocation as necessary;
  - (g) protecting occupants' belongings by covering with heavy duty polyethylene plastic secured with duct tape or the equivalent or by removing them from the work area;
  - (h) misting interior painted surfaces before disturbing and hand scraping all loose paint, wallpaper, and plaster;
  - (i) wet sweeping and collecting and containing visible debris and plastic sheeting in a secure container;
  - (j) performing specialized cleaning upon completion of work to remove residual dust and debris;
  - (k) removing all materials, tools, and contained debris from the work area and the residential housing unit upon completion of maintenance activities; and
  - (l) avoiding unsafe practices, including prohibited methods listed in G.S. 130A-131.9C(g).
- (4) "Specialized cleaning" is the use of cleaning protocols that have been shown to be effective in removing lead-contaminated dust as specified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing and any updates and revisions.
- (5) "Visual inspection" is an on-site investigation by a certified lead inspector or a certified lead risk assessor to determine the completion of abatement, remediation, and maintenance standard activities. A visual inspection shall include paint, dust, or soil sampling, and a notification of the results.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.8; 130A-131.9A;  
Eff. October 1, 1990;  
Transferred and Recodified from 15A NCAC 19I .0101 Eff. August 28, 1991;  
Transferred and Recodified from 15A NCAC 21E .0401 Eff. February 18, 1992;*

*Amended Eff. August 1, 1996; January 1, 1995; July 1, 1992;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. November 21, 1997;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1999.*

### **15A NCAC 18A .3102 PERSISTENT ELEVATED BLOOD LEAD LEVEL**

The determination of a persistent elevated blood lead level may be based on more than three consecutive blood lead tests performed within the timeframe set forth in G.S. 130A-131.7 so long as all of the consecutive blood lead test results are equal to 15 micrograms per deciliter or greater.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.8; 130A-131.9A-G;  
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Amended Eff. August 1, 1996; January 1, 1995;  
Temporary Amendment Eff. November 21, 1997;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1999.*

### **15A NCAC 18A .3103 EXAMINATION AND TESTING**

- (a) When the Department learns of a lead poisoning hazard in a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility, the Department shall notify the parents of all children less than six years old who reside in, regularly visit, or attend the unit or facility. The notice shall advise the parents of the adverse health effects of lead exposure and recommend that they have their child examined and tested.
- (b) Examination and testing shall be required for all children in a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility in which a lead poisoning hazard has been identified if any child tested who has resided in, regularly visited, or attended the unit or facility has an elevated blood lead level.
- (c) Notification of the need for testing shall be repeated every six months until all lead-based paint hazards have been abated and all other lead poisoning hazards have been remediated.
- (d) Children less than six months old are not required to be tested when lead poisoning hazards are identified in a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility. The Department may require that these children be examined and tested within 30 days after reaching six months of age if they continue to reside in, regularly visit, or attend a unit or facility containing lead poisoning hazards.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.8; 130A-131.9;  
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Temporary Amendment Eff. November 21, 1997;  
Amended Eff. April 1, 1999.*

### **15A NCAC 18A .3104 INVESTIGATION TO IDENTIFY LEAD POISONING HAZARDS**

- (a) The Department shall conduct an investigation when it reasonably suspects that a lead poisoning hazard to children exists. Reasonable suspicion of a lead poisoning hazard to children may be based on the presence of the following characteristics:
  - (1) a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility built before 1950, a unit or facility built before 1978 that contains readily accessible deteriorated paint, or a unit or facility built before 1978 that is undergoing or has undergone renovations or remodeling within the last six months, unless the unit is lead-safe housing or is in compliance with the maintenance standard;
  - (2) a child less than six years old residing in, regularly visiting, or attending the unit or facility; and
  - (3) a referral by a local, state, or federal public health, environmental protection, or human services official, or building inspector.
- (b) Notwithstanding the existence of a certificate of compliance with the maintenance standard, the Department shall investigate a residential housing unit occupied or regularly visited by a child less than six years old who has a persistent elevated blood lead level or confirmed lead poisoning.

(c) The Department may upon request conduct an investigation to identify lead poisoning hazards at a proposed or substitute residential housing unit of a child less than six years old with a persistent elevated blood lead level or confirmed lead poisoning who is seeking alternative housing.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.8; 130A-131.9A;*  
*Eff. October 1, 1990;*  
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*Transferred and Recodified from 15A NCAC 21E .0404 Eff. February 18, 1992;*  
*Amended Eff. August 1, 1996;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. November 21, 1997;*  
*Amended Eff. April 1, 1999.*

#### **15A NCAC 18A .3105 LEAD POISONING HAZARD AND CLEARANCE STANDARD FOR SOIL**

(a) Bare soil at a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility is a lead poisoning hazard when:

- (1) it contains greater than 400 parts per million lead in high contact areas for children including sandboxes, gardens, play areas, pet sleeping areas, and areas within three feet of a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility;
- (2) it contains 2000 parts per million lead or greater in other locations at a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility where contact by children is less likely; or
- (3) it is determined by the Department to be hazardous to children less than six years old pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 2681 et seq., 42 U.S.C. 4851 et seq. and the regulations promulgated under these Sections.

(b) Unless otherwise determined by the Department on the basis of credible site-specific evidence including soil lead bioavailability, speciation, or particle size, land use and condition, or epidemiologic or other relevant scientific data, all remediation plans pursuant to G.S. 130A-131.9C shall require that:

- (1) bare soil lead concentrations greater than 400 parts per million and less than 2000 parts per million at a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility in high contact areas for children including sandboxes, gardens, play areas, pet sleeping areas, and areas within three feet of the unit or facility be:
  - (A) permanently covered with four to six inches of gravel, mulch, or sod with a vegetative cover;
  - (B) physically restricted by a permanent barrier;
  - (C) removed; or
  - (D) paved over with concrete or asphalt;
- (2) bare soil lead concentrations of 2000 parts per million or greater at a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility be:
  - (A) physically restricted by a permanent barrier;
  - (B) removed; or
  - (C) paved over with concrete or asphalt; and
- (3) ground coverings such as gravel, mulch, sod, or other vegetative covers must be established and maintained.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.8; 130A-131.9A-G;*  
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*Amended Eff. August 1, 1996; January 1, 1995;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. November 21, 1997;*  
*Amended Eff. April 1, 1999.*

#### **15A NCAC 18A .3106 ABATEMENT AND REMEDIATION**

(a) Notwithstanding the existence of a certificate of compliance, the Department may require abatement of lead-based paint hazards and remediation of other lead poisoning hazards identified at a residential housing unit that is occupied or regularly visited by a child less than six years old who has confirmed lead poisoning when:

- (1) a visual inspection reveals that the owner or managing agent has failed to continue to comply with the maintenance standard; or
  - (2) the blood lead level of a child with confirmed lead poisoning increases on two consecutive blood tests within a six-month period.
- (b) When compliance with the maintenance standard is used to meet remediation requirements, maintenance standard activities must be conducted in accordance with an approved remediation plan in accordance with G.S. 130A-131.9C. The remediation plan must address all lead poisoning hazards identified on interior and exterior surfaces including floors, walls, ceilings, windows, porches, decks, garages, railings, steps, and bare soil.
- (c) Abandonment of a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility is an acceptable method of remediation. A remediation plan of abandonment shall contain a statement that the owner or managing agent agrees to submit a modified remediation plan to the Department at least 14 days before the abandoned unit or facility is reoccupied if the property will be used as a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility. The lead-based paint hazards must be abated and other lead poisoning hazards must be remediated in accordance with an approved remediation plan. Nothing in this Rule shall be construed as authorizing an owner or managing agent to evict an occupant of a residential housing unit in violation of G.S. 42.
- (d) Demolition of a residential housing unit or a child-occupied facility is an acceptable method of remediation. The remediation plan shall indicate containment measures for lead-contaminated dust and soil, and storage and disposal methods for lead-contaminated construction debris. The owner or managing agent must notify the Department and the occupants of any adjacent unit or facility of the dates of demolition at least three days prior to commencement of demolition.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.8; 130A-131.9A; 130A-131.9B; 130A-131.9C; 130A-131.9D; 130A-131.9E*  
*Eff. January 1, 1995;*  
*Amended Eff. September 1, 1996;*  
*Temporary Amendment Eff. November 21, 1997;*  
*Amended Eff. April 1, 1999.*

#### **15A NCAC 18A .3107 MAINTENANCE STANDARD**

- (a) Property owners and managing agents shall use safe work practices to repair and repaint deteriorated paint on interior surfaces of a residential housing unit and to correct the cause of deterioration including structural conditions causing water infiltration, interior moisture, and poor paint adhesion. For pre-1950 single family and duplex residential housing units, property owners and managing agents shall repair and repaint both interior and exterior surfaces including all walls, ceilings, windows, porches, decks, garages, railings, and steps, and shall correct the causes of deterioration. In addition, for pre-1950 single family and duplex residential housing units, property owners and managing agents shall establish and maintain a vegetative cover in areas of bare soil within three feet of the residential housing unit.
- (b) Property owners and managing agents shall conduct specialized cleaning on interior horizontal surfaces to remove dust that may contain lead.
- (c) Property owners and managing agents shall correct conditions in which painted surfaces are rubbing, binding, or being damaged to protect the integrity of the paint and to prevent the generation of lead dust.
- (d) Subject to the occupant's approval, property owners and managing agents shall steam shampoo carpets or use other specialized cleaning methods to remove dust that may contain lead.
- (e) Property owners and managing agents shall provide smooth and cleanable interior horizontal surfaces by recoating deteriorated hardwood floors with a durable coating, replacing or recovering worn-out linoleum floors, making interior window sills smooth and cleanable, capping window troughs with vinyl or aluminum coil stock, and providing drainage from storm window frames.
- (f) Property owners and managing agents shall provide occupants with the Environmental Protection Agency-developed pamphlet "Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home", any summaries of reports prepared by a certified lead inspector or a certified lead risk assessor on lead-based paint hazards, an educational pamphlet developed by the Department describing the maintenance standard and the effects of compliance on the owner, and information related to previous certificates of compliance issued.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.9D; 130A-131.9E; 130A-131.9F; 130A-131.9G;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. November 21, 1997;  
Eff. April 1, 1999.

### **15A NCAC 18A .3108 APPLICATION AND ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

- (a) Written application for a certificate of compliance shall be made by an owner or managing agent on a form developed by the Department and shall include a copy of the tax record or other documentation indicating the date of construction of the residential housing unit.
- (b) To obtain a certificate of compliance with the maintenance standard, an owner or managing agent shall comply with the provisions of G.S. 130A-131.7 and these Rules.
- (c) Proof of compliance shall include:
- (1) a sworn statement by the owner or managing agent that either he has complied with all provisions of the maintenance standard or a sworn statement that no child less than six years old has resided in or regularly visited the unit for the past year;
  - (2) a signed statement by the occupants, if any, acknowledging that information was provided as required under G.S. 130A-131.7 and these Rules;
  - (3) a written summary of the visual inspection conducted by a certified lead inspector or a certified lead risk assessor; and
  - (4) measurements of at least two composite dust samples, one each from floors and either interior window sills or window troughs, indicating the absence of dust that constitutes a lead poisoning hazard. Each composite sample must contain no more than four subsamples including a bedroom, a playroom, a den, and a kitchen. All samples must be analyzed by a laboratory recognized by the Department and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 405(b) of the Toxic Substances Control Act as being capable of performing analyses for lead in paint, dust, and soil.
- (d) For multi-family residential housing units consisting of five or more units in a single property, visual inspections and laboratory measurements are only required for a statistical sampling of the units as specified for risk assessments of similar dwellings by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Chapter 5 of the Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing and any updates and revisions. Any such sampling protocol shall focus on the units most likely to contain lead-based paint hazards and units where children less than six years old reside or regularly visit.
- (e) For annual renewal of the certificate of compliance, periodic surveillance may be conducted by an owner or a managing agent who has a good compliance record, with no outstanding violations of these Rules, in lieu of a visual inspection so long as the written summary of a visual inspection conducted by a certified lead inspector or a certified lead risk assessor is provided at least once every three years. Periodic surveillance shall include a written report and composite dust sampling measurements as described in 15A NCAC 18A.3108(c)(4).
- (f) The Department shall issue a certificate of compliance within 30 days after receipt of proof of compliance unless the residential housing unit has been designated for on-site monitoring by the Department. If the residential housing unit has been selected for on-site monitoring, the certificate of compliance shall be issued within 30 days after the Department has verified compliance with G.S. 130A-131.7 and these Rules by a visual inspection. The visual inspection shall occur within 30 days after receipt of the application for a certificate of compliance.
- (g) The certificate of compliance shall be signed, dated, and issued by the Department. The certificate shall state the date of issue, the date of expiration, and the address of the residential housing unit.
- (h) The certificate of compliance shall expire one year from the date of its issuance.
- (i) The owner or managing agent shall notify the Department and the occupants of a residential housing unit three days prior to commencing maintenance, renovation, or remodeling activities that occur after a certificate of compliance is issued but before the certificate expires. Such activities shall be performed using safe work practices.
- (j) The Department shall notify the occupants at the time a certificate of compliance is issued or reissued. Such notification shall include an educational pamphlet describing the maintenance standard and the effects of compliance on the owner and the lead poisoning hazard information package described in these Rules.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.8; 130A-131.9A-G;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. November 21, 1997;  
Eff. April 1, 1999.

**15A NCAC 18A .3109 REVOCATION AND DENIAL OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

- (a) The Department may deny or revoke a certificate of compliance when:
- (1) the Department finds failure or refusal to comply or maintain compliance with G.S. 130A-131.7 or these Rules;
  - (2) the Department finds that the information submitted by the owner or managing agent is incomplete or falsified; or
  - (3) the Department is denied entry by the owner or managing agent to conduct a visual inspection.
- (b) The Department shall give notice of denial or revocation to the owner or managing agent within 30 days after receipt of the application for a certificate of compliance, or within 30 days after the Department was denied entry by the owner or managing agent to conduct a visual inspection, or within 30 days after the Department finds that the owner or managing agent failed to comply or maintain compliance with the provisions of G.S. 130A-131.7 or these Rules.
- (c) The notice of denial or revocation of a certificate of compliance shall be in writing and shall set forth the grounds for the denial or revocation.
- (d) The notice of denial or revocation shall indicate that the owner or managing agent has the right to appeal the denial or revocation in accordance with G.S. 130A-24(a1).
- (e) The notice of denial or revocation shall be delivered personally or mailed by registered or certified mail return receipt requested.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.8; 130A-131.9A-G;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. November 21, 1997;  
Eff. April 1, 1999.

**15A NCAC 18A .3110 MONITORING**

- (a) The Department shall monitor the validity of information submitted by owners who seek certificates of compliance with the maintenance standard.
- (b) Monitoring activities shall include a review of application materials submitted and may include on-site compliance monitoring to verify the accuracy and adequacy of the information provided.
- (c) The Department shall design and implement a plan to conduct visual inspections of up to 50% of the residential housing units for which applications are submitted for certificates of compliance with the maintenance standard.
- (d) For residential housing units subject to abatement and remediation requirements in which children less than six years of age have resided in or regularly visited within the past year, the Department shall conduct visual inspections and residual lead dust monitoring to verify continued compliance with the maintenance standard annually and at any other time the Department deems necessary to carry out the provisions of G.S. 130A-131.7 or these Rules.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.8; 130A-131.9A-G;  
Temporary Adoption Eff. November 21, 1997;  
Eff. April 1, 1999.

**15A NCAC 18A .3111 RESIDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

When a child less than six years old has an elevated blood lead level of 10 micrograms per deciliter or greater, the Department shall provide to the owner or managing agent and the parents or legal guardians of the child a lead poisoning hazard information package. The information provided shall comply with the provisions of G.S. 130A-131.9G.

*History Note:* Authority G.S. 130A-131.5; 130A-131.7; 130A-131.8; 130A-131.9G;  
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