



NICHOLLS

Auction Marketing Group

PREMIER SERVICE SINCE 1968

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 VAAF-2908000729

REAL ESTATE CONTRACT of PURCHASE

THIS CONTRACT of purchase made this _____ day of _____, 20____, by and between _____
 _____, (hereinafter called "Seller"),
 and _____
 _____ (hereinafter called "Purchaser").

That, for and in consideration of the hereinafter contained mutual promises other good and valuable consideration, the parties do hereby agree as follows:

1. Seller shall sell and convey and Purchaser shall purchase all that certain Real Estate (hereinafter the "Real Estate" or the "Property") with all rights and privileges thereto appurtenant and all buildings and improvements thereon situate, lying and being in _____ Magisterial District, _____, Virginia, more particularly described as follows: _____

2. The purchase price of the Real Estate is \$ _____ as determined at public auction by Auctioneer. The purchase price shall be payable by Purchaser at settlement in cash or immediately available funds. _____
3. Purchaser has paid a deposit (hereinafter the "deposit") to Auctioneer in the amount of \$ _____ with the signing of this contract. The deposit shall be held in escrow in a non-interest bearing account by Auctioneer and then applied to the purchase price at settlement, subject to the payment of Auctioneer's commission and the payment of Auctioneer's costs and expenses in preparing for and conducting the auction pursuant to that separate agreement between Seller and Auctioneer (the "Listing Agreement"). In the event Purchaser breaches this Contract, the deposit shall be paid to Seller, less Auctioneer's commission and all costs and expenses as set forth in the Listing Agreement, but such payment shall not preclude any other remedies available to Seller for such breach. In the event Seller breaches this Contract, the deposit shall be returned to Purchaser, but such payment shall not preclude any other remedies available to Purchaser for such breach; provided further that Seller shall remain responsible for Auctioneer's commission and all costs and expenses as set forth in the Listing Agreement. If this Contract is not consummated and a dispute exists between Seller and Purchaser, the deposit shall be held in escrow by the Auctioneer until Seller and Purchaser have agreed to the disposition thereof, or a court of competent jurisdiction orders disbursement. If resolution on the disposition of the deposit is not timely reached to the satisfaction of Auctioneer, Auctioneer is hereby authorized to commence an interpleader action and deposit the deposit with a court of competent jurisdiction and in such event, Auctioneer shall be relieved of all further obligation and liability. Purchaser and Seller shall indemnify Auctioneer for all costs and expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) incurred by Auctioneer arising from any dispute between Seller and Purchaser with respect to the deposit or this Contract.
4. Pursuant to the Listing Agreement, Auctioneer shall be paid from the deposit a commission of \$ _____ plus all costs and expenses of sale.
5. Settlement shall be made at the offices of _____ on or before _____. Possession shall be given at settlement, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the parties hereto, subject to the rights of tenants, if any. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. _____
6. Seller and Purchaser agree that Auctioneer was the sole procuring cause of this Contract of Purchase. If either Seller or Purchaser defaults under this Contract of Purchase, such defaulting party shall be liable for the commission of Auctioneer and for any expenses incurred by the non-defaulting party and by Auctioneer, such expenses including their respective attorney's fee, advertising expenses, and labor, if any, in connection with this transaction and the enforcement of such Contract.
7. PURCHASER EXPRESSLY AGREES THAT THE PROPERTY IS OR WILL BE SOLD "AS IS, WHERE IS, WITH ALL FAULTS", WITHOUT ANY WARRANTY OR REPRESENTATION, EXPRESS, IMPLIED, OR ARISING BY OPERATION OF LAW, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTY OF CONDITION, HABITABILITY, MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND SUBJECT TO ORDINARY WEAR AND TEAR OCCURRING AFTER THE DATE HEREOF. Purchaser further acknowledges that Seller has neither made nor extended to Purchaser any representation, warranty or indemnity with regard to the environmental condition of the Property. The Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act (Section 55.1-700 through 55.1-714 of the Code of Virginia) requires Seller of a certain residential property to furnish the Purchaser a property disclosure statement in a form provided by the Real Estate Board. Disclosure _____ is or _____ is not attached.
8. Seller represents that the Property (check as applicable) _____ is or _____ is not located within a development which is subject to the Virginia Property Owners' Association Act (55.1-1800 et seq. of the Code of Virginia). If the Property is within such a development, the Act requires Seller to obtain from the property owners' association an association disclosure packet and provide it to Purchaser. _____

9. Seller agrees to pay the expense of preparing the deed, certificates for non-foreign status and Form 1099-S and the recordation tax applicable to grantors and all amounts payable to Auctioneer pursuant to the Listing Agreement. Except as otherwise agreed herein, all other expenses incurred by Purchaser in connection with this purchase, including, without limitation, title examination, insurance premiums, survey costs, recording costs, loan document preparation costs and fees of Purchaser's attorney, shall be borne by Purchaser. Real estate taxes shall be prorated as of settlement. Seller shall pay no closing costs on behalf of Purchaser. Except as expressly provided herein, each party shall be responsible for its own attorney's fees.
10. At Settlement, Seller shall convey to Purchaser good and marketable fee simple title to the Property by deed of ____ Special or ____ General warranty and free and clear of all mortgages, deed of trust or other monetary liens, same to be released by Seller at or prior to Closing. Purchaser's and Seller's obligations hereunder are contingent upon Seller being able to convey good and marketable title to the Property subject, however, to the following (the "Permitted Encumbrances"): (i) matters that do not render title to the Property unmarketable; (ii) the rights of tenants, if any; (iii) the lien of ad valorem real estate taxes not yet due and payable; (iv) such state of facts as an accurate survey and inspection of the Property would reveal; (v) easements of record granted to providers of utility services; and (vi) the matters shown as exceptions on any title commitment or title policy provided to Purchaser by Auctioneer prior to the auction sale, if any, provided no representation or warranty is made as to accuracy or completeness of such title work. If, prior to settlement hereunder, Purchaser identifies a title defect other than the Permitted Encumbrances, Seller shall have the opportunity, but not the obligation, to attempt to cure the title defect, and Seller shall be able to extend the settlement date accordingly. If Seller does not elect to attempt to cure the title defect, or if Seller attempts but is not successful in curing the title defect, Purchaser shall have the option to terminate this Agreement, in which case Seller shall instruct Auctioneer to return the deposit to Purchaser and neither party will have any further obligation or liability to the other, or to waive the title defect and proceed to settlement hereunder; provided Seller shall remain responsible for payment of Auctioneer's commission and the cost and expense of the auction pursuant to the Listing Agreement. If an owner's title insurance policy can be obtained without exception to the title defect or with affirmative protection over the title defect, Purchaser agrees to waive its objection to the title defect. It is understood and acknowledged between the parties that Auctioneer shall be paid its commission and all costs and expenses of sale in the event of a termination of this Contract pursuant to this Section 10.
11. In the event the Property is taxed under land use assessment and this sale results in disqualification from land use eligibility, Purchaser shall pay any rollback taxes assessed.
12. All risk of loss or damage to the Property by fire, windstorm, casualty or other cause, or taking by eminent domain, is assumed by Seller until Settlement. In the event of substantial loss or damage to the Property before Settlement, Purchaser shall have the option (to be exercised within five (5) business days of written notice of such event) of either (i) terminating this Contract, or (ii) proceed with settlement in which event Seller shall assign to Purchaser all of Seller's rights under any applicable policy or policies of insurance and any condemnation awards and pay over the Purchaser any sums received as a result of such loss or damage. Failure to timely make such election shall be deemed Purchaser's election to proceed with settlement under (ii).
13. Virginia law (Va. Code Ann Section 43-1 et seq.) permits persons who have performed labor or furnished materials for the construction, removal, repair or improvement of any building or structure to file a lien against the property. This lien may be filed at any time after the work is commenced or the material is furnished, but not later than the earlier of (i) 90 days from the last day of the month in which the lienor last performed work or furnished materials or (ii) 90 days from the time the construction, removal, repair or improvement is terminated. Seller shall deliver to Purchaser at settlement an affidavit, in a form acceptable to Purchaser's title insurer, if applicable, signed by Seller, that no labor or materials have been furnished to the Property within the statutory period for the filing of mechanics' or materialmen's liens against the Property. If labor or materials have been furnished during the statutory period, Seller shall deliver to Purchaser an affidavit signed by Seller and the person(s) furnishing the labor or materials that the costs thereof have been paid in full.

AN EFFECTIVE LIEN FOR WORK PERFORMED PRIOR TO THE DATE OF SETTLEMENT MAY BE FILED AFTER SETTLEMENT. LEGAL COUNSEL SHOULD BE CONSULTED.

14. Purchaser may wish at Purchaser's cost to purchase owner's title insurance. Depending on the particular circumstances of the transaction, such insurance could include affirmative coverage against possible mechanics' and materialmen's liens for labor and materials performed prior to closing and which, though not recorded at the time of recordation of Purchaser's deed, could be subsequently recorded and would adversely affect Purchaser's title to the Property. The coverage afforded by such title insurance will be governed by the terms and conditions thereof, and the dollar amount of the cost of obtaining such title insurance coverage. At settlement, Seller shall deliver an owner's affidavit in a form reasonably satisfactory to Purchaser's title insurer.
15. This agreement is made in the Commonwealth of Virginia and shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
16. If any provisions herein shall be legally unenforceable or in the event that a Court of competent jurisdiction shall deem any of the provisions contained in this Contract invalid or unenforceable, they shall be deemed severed from the other provisions of this Contract, and the remaining provisions shall, nevertheless, be valid and enforceable and continue in full force and effect. The invalidity or the unenforceability of any particular provision of this Contract shall not affect the other provisions hereof and the Contract shall be construed in all respects as though such invalid or unenforceable provisions were omitted.
17. This Contract contains the entire understanding between the parties with reference to the matters contained herein, and there are no terms, conditions, warranties, or representations other than those contained herein and no amendments hereto are valid unless made in writing and signed by both of the parties hereto.
18. All notices and other communications hereunder in connection herewith shall be deemed to have been duly given if they are in writing and delivered personally or sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested and first-class postage prepaid to the following addresses:

Seller: _____	Purchaser: _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Phone: _____	Phone: _____
Email: _____	Email: _____

19. Except as herein otherwise provided to the contrary, this agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties signatory hereto, their heirs, personal representatives, guardians and successors and assigns.

20. No party shall assign or transfer any rights under or interest in (including, but without limitation, monies that may become due or monies that are due) under this Contract without the written consent of the other. Unless specifically stated to the contrary in any written consent to an assignment, no assignment will release or discharge the assignor from any duty or responsibility under this Contract.
21. Nothing under this Contract shall be construed to give any rights or benefits in this Contract to anyone other than the parties hereto, and all duties and responsibilities undertaken pursuant to this Contract will be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the parties hereto and not for the benefit of any other party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Nicholls Auction Marketing Group, Inc. a Virginia corporation ("Auctioneer") shall be deemed a third party beneficiary of this Contract and entitled to enforce the provisions of this Contract against the parties hereto. Auctioneer shall have no liability hereunder to either Purchaser or Seller, except in the event of intentional misconduct or gross negligence with respect to the deposit, in which case Auctioneer's liability shall be limited to the deposit amount.
22. This Contract supersedes any and all other understandings or agreements between the parties, either oral or in writing, with respect to the subject matter hereof.
23. The parties hereto declare and acknowledge that each has read and fully understands the terms set forth in this Contract.

WITNESS the following signatures and seals:

SELLER:

 (SEAL), indiv.

NAME

 (SEAL), indiv.

NAME

 (SEAL), indiv.

NAME

 (SEAL), indiv.

NAME

 (Entity Name)

By: _____ (SEAL)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Closing Information _____

PURCHASER:

 (SEAL), indiv.

NAME

 (SEAL), indiv.

NAME

 (SEAL), indiv.

NAME

 (SEAL), indiv.

NAME

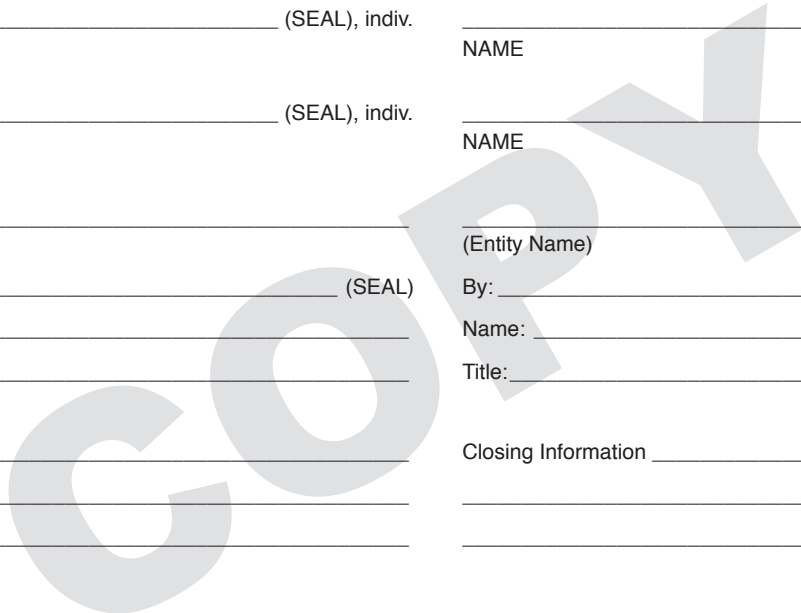
 (Entity Name)

By: _____ (SEAL)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Closing Information _____



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ADDENDUM TO REAL ESTATE CONTRACT OF PURCHASE

REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE to the Real Estate Contract of Purchase dated _____, between

_____ (“Seller”) and

_____ (“Purchaser”)

regarding the sale of property located at _____

All parties acknowledge that they are bound by the terms, conditions, representations and statements contained in the Property Information Packet associated with the above-referenced property.

Specifically, Purchaser acknowledges that the property is sold “AS IS, with all FAULTS” and that the Purchaser has conducted any and all investigations, inspections, and any other due diligence Purchaser deems appropriate. Purchaser therefore acknowledges that the Purchaser accepts the property “AS IS” unless other written arrangements have been made with the Seller.

Purchaser and Seller also acknowledge that they have read, understand and will comply with the attached TERMS & CONDITIONS contained in the Property Information Packet.

Seller Date Purchaser Date

Seller Date Purchaser Date

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY SELLER AND PURCHASER

The Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act (§ 55.1-700 et seq. of the *Code of Virginia*) requires the owner of certain residential real property—whenever the property is to be sold or leased with an option to buy—to provide notification to the purchaser of disclosures required by the Act and to advise the purchaser that the disclosures are listed on the Real Estate Board webpage.

Certain transfers of residential property are excluded from this requirement (see § 55.1-702).

PROPERTY ADDRESS/
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: _____

The purchaser is advised of the disclosures listed in the **RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT** located on the Real Estate Board webpage at:
http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/Consumers/Residential_Property_Disclosures

The owner(s) hereby provides notification as required under the Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act (§ 55.1-700 et seq. of the *Code of Virginia*) and, if represented by a real estate licensee as provided in § 55.1-712, further acknowledges having been informed of the rights and obligations under the Act.

Owner

Owner

Date

Date

The purchaser(s) hereby acknowledges receipt of notification of disclosures as required under the Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act (§ 55.1-700 et seq. of the *Code of Virginia*). In addition, if the purchaser is (i) represented by a real estate licensee or (ii) not represented by a real estate licensee but the owner is so represented as provided in § 55.1-712, the purchaser further acknowledges having been informed of the rights and obligations under the Act.

Purchaser

Purchaser

Date

Date

Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based Paint and/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards

This disclosure applies to property located at _____

Lead Warning Statement

Every purchaser of any interest in residential real property on which a residential dwelling was built prior to 1978 is notified that such property may present exposure to lead from lead-based paint that may place young children at risk of developing lead poisoning. Lead poisoning in young children may produce permanent neurological damage, including learning disabilities, reduced intelligence quotient, behavioral problems, and impaired memory. Lead poisoning also poses a particular risk to pregnant women. The seller of any interest in residential real property is required to provide the buyer with any information on lead-based paint hazards from risk assessments or inspections in the seller's possession and notify the buyer of any known lead-based paint hazards. A risk assessment or inspection for possible lead-based paint hazards is recommended prior to purchase.

Seller's Disclosure

- (a) Presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards (check (i) or (ii) below):
 - (i) _____ Known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards are present in the housing (explain).

 - (ii) _____ Seller has no knowledge of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing.
- (b) Records and reports available to the seller (check (i) or (ii) below):
 - (i) _____ Seller has provided the purchaser with all available records and reports pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing (list documents below).

 - (ii) _____ Seller has no reports or records pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing.

Purchaser's Acknowledgment (initial)

- (c) _____ Purchaser has received copies of all information listed above.
- (d) _____ Purchaser has received the pamphlet *Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home*.
- (e) Purchaser has (check (i) or (ii) below):
 - (i) _____ received a 10-day opportunity (or mutually agreed upon period) to conduct a risk assessment or inspection for the presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards; or
 - (ii) _____ waived the opportunity to conduct a risk assessment or inspection for the presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards.

Agent's Acknowledgment (initial)

- (f) _____ Agent has informed the seller of the seller's obligations under 42 U.S.C. 4852d and is aware of his/her responsibility to ensure compliance.

Certification of Accuracy

The following parties have reviewed the information above and certify, to the best of their knowledge, that the information they have provided is true and accurate.

_____	_____	_____	_____
Seller	Date	Seller	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Purchaser	Date	Purchaser	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Agent	Date	Agent	Date



Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home



United States
Environmental
Protection Agency



United States
Consumer Product
Safety Commission



United States
Department of Housing
and Urban Development

Are You Planning to Buy or Rent a Home Built Before 1978?

Did you know that many homes built before 1978 have **lead-based paint**? Lead from paint, chips, and dust can pose serious health hazards.

Read this entire brochure to learn:

- How lead gets into the body
- How lead affects health
- What you can do to protect your family
- Where to go for more information

Before renting or buying a pre-1978 home or apartment, federal law requires:

- Sellers must disclose known information on lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards before selling a house.
- Real estate sales contracts must include a specific warning statement about lead-based paint. Buyers have up to 10 days to check for lead.
- Landlords must disclose known information on lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards before leases take effect. Leases must include a specific warning statement about lead-based paint.

If undertaking renovations, repairs, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or apartment:

- Read EPA's pamphlet, *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*, to learn about the lead-safe work practices that contractors are required to follow when working in your home (see page 12).



Simple Steps to Protect Your Family from Lead Hazards

If you think your home has lead-based paint:

- Don't try to remove lead-based paint yourself.
- Always keep painted surfaces in good condition to minimize deterioration.
- Get your home checked for lead hazards. Find a certified inspector or risk assessor at [epa.gov/lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead).
- Talk to your landlord about fixing surfaces with peeling or chipping paint.
- Regularly clean floors, window sills, and other surfaces.
- Take precautions to avoid exposure to lead dust when remodeling.
- When renovating, repairing, or painting, hire only EPA- or state-approved Lead-Safe certified renovation firms.
- Before buying, renting, or renovating your home, have it checked for lead-based paint.
- Consult your health care provider about testing your children for lead. Your pediatrician can check for lead with a simple blood test.
- Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers, and toys often.
- Make sure children eat healthy, low-fat foods high in iron, calcium, and vitamin C.
- Remove shoes or wipe soil off shoes before entering your house.

Lead Gets into the Body in Many Ways

Adults and children can get lead into their bodies if they:

- Breathe in lead dust (especially during activities such as renovations, repairs, or painting that disturb painted surfaces).
- Swallow lead dust that has settled on food, food preparation surfaces, and other places.
- Eat paint chips or soil that contains lead.

Lead is especially dangerous to children under the age of 6.

- At this age, children's brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead.
- Children's growing bodies absorb more lead.
- Babies and young children often put their hands and other objects in their mouths. These objects can have lead dust on them.



Women of childbearing age should know that lead is dangerous to a developing fetus.

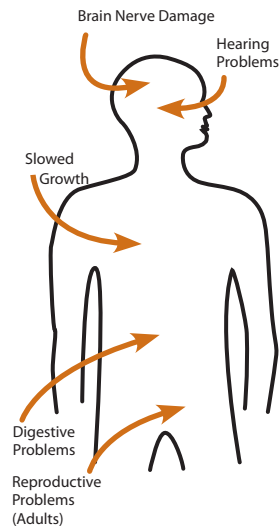
- Women with a high lead level in their system before or during pregnancy risk exposing the fetus to lead through the placenta during fetal development.

Health Effects of Lead

Lead affects the body in many ways. It is important to know that even exposure to low levels of lead can severely harm children.

In children, exposure to lead can cause:

- Nervous system and kidney damage
- Learning disabilities, attention-deficit disorder, and decreased intelligence
- Speech, language, and behavior problems
- Poor muscle coordination
- Decreased muscle and bone growth
- Hearing damage



While low-lead exposure is most common, exposure to high amounts of lead can have devastating effects on children, including seizures, unconsciousness, and in some cases, death.

Although children are especially susceptible to lead exposure, lead can be dangerous for adults, too.

In adults, exposure to lead can cause:

- Harm to a developing fetus
- Increased chance of high blood pressure during pregnancy
- Fertility problems (in men and women)
- High blood pressure
- Digestive problems
- Nerve disorders
- Memory and concentration problems
- Muscle and joint pain

Check Your Family for Lead

Get your children and home tested if you think your home has lead.

Children's blood lead levels tend to increase rapidly from 6 to 12 months of age, and tend to peak at 18 to 24 months of age.

Consult your doctor for advice on testing your children. A simple blood test can detect lead. Blood lead tests are usually recommended for:

- Children at ages 1 and 2
- Children or other family members who have been exposed to high levels of lead
- Children who should be tested under your state or local health screening plan

Your doctor can explain what the test results mean and if more testing will be needed.

Where Lead-Based Paint Is Found

In general, the older your home or childcare facility, the more likely it has lead-based paint.¹

Many homes, including private, federally-assisted, federally-owned housing, and childcare facilities built before 1978 have lead-based paint. In 1978, the federal government banned consumer uses of lead-containing paint.²

Learn how to determine if paint is lead-based paint on page 7.

Lead can be found:

- In homes and childcare facilities in the city, country, or suburbs,
- In private and public single-family homes and apartments,
- On surfaces inside and outside of the house, and
- In soil around a home. (Soil can pick up lead from exterior paint or other sources, such as past use of leaded gas in cars.)

Learn more about where lead is found at [epa.gov/lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead).

¹ "Lead-based paint" is currently defined by the federal government as paint with lead levels greater than or equal to 1.0 milligram per square centimeter (mg/cm²), or more than 0.5% by weight.

² "Lead-containing paint" is currently defined by the federal government as lead in new dried paint in excess of 90 parts per million (ppm) by weight.

Identifying Lead-Based Paint and Lead-Based Paint Hazards

Deteriorated lead-based paint (peeling, chipping, chalking, cracking, or damaged paint) is a hazard and needs immediate attention. **Lead-based paint** may also be a hazard when found on surfaces that children can chew or that get a lot of wear and tear, such as:

- On windows and window sills
- Doors and door frames
- Stairs, railings, banisters, and porches

Lead-based paint is usually not a hazard if it is in good condition and if it is not on an impact or friction surface like a window.

Lead dust can form when lead-based paint is scraped, sanded, or heated. Lead dust also forms when painted surfaces containing lead bump or rub together. Lead paint chips and dust can get on surfaces and objects that people touch. Settled lead dust can reenter the air when the home is vacuumed or swept, or when people walk through it. EPA currently defines the following levels of lead in dust as hazardous:

- 10 micrograms per square foot ($\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$) and higher for floors, including carpeted floors
- 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ and higher for interior window sills

Lead in soil can be a hazard when children play in bare soil or when people bring soil into the house on their shoes. EPA currently defines the following levels of lead in soil as hazardous:

- 400 parts per million (ppm) and higher in play areas of bare soil
- 1,200 ppm (average) and higher in bare soil in the remainder of the yard

Remember, lead from paint chips—which you can see—and lead dust—which you may not be able to see—both can be hazards.

The only way to find out if paint, dust, or soil lead hazards exist is to test for them. The next page describes how to do this.

Checking Your Home for Lead

You can get your home tested for lead in several different ways:

- A lead-based paint **inspection** tells you if your home has lead-based paint and where it is located. It won't tell you whether your home currently has lead hazards. A trained and certified testing professional, called a lead-based paint inspector, will conduct a paint inspection using methods, such as:

- Portable x-ray fluorescence (XRF) machine
- Lab tests of paint samples



- A **risk assessment** tells you if your home currently has any lead hazards from lead in paint, dust, or soil. It also tells you what actions to take to address any hazards. A trained and certified testing professional, called a risk assessor, will:

- Sample paint that is deteriorated on doors, windows, floors, stairs, and walls
- Sample dust near painted surfaces and sample bare soil in the yard
- Get lab tests of paint, dust, and soil samples

- A combination inspection and risk assessment tells you if your home has any lead-based paint and if your home has any lead hazards, and where both are located.

Be sure to read the report provided to you after your inspection or risk assessment is completed, and ask questions about anything you do not understand.

Checking Your Home for Lead, continued

In preparing for renovation, repair, or painting work in a pre-1978 home, Lead-Safe Certified renovators (see page 12) may:

- Take paint chip samples to determine if lead-based paint is present in the area planned for renovation and send them to an EPA-recognized lead lab for analysis. In housing receiving federal assistance, the person collecting these samples must be a certified lead-based paint inspector or risk assessor
- Use EPA-recognized tests kits to determine if lead-based paint is absent (but not in housing receiving federal assistance)
- Presume that lead-based paint is present and use lead-safe work practices

There are state and federal programs in place to ensure that testing is done safely, reliably, and effectively. Contact your state or local agency for more information, visit epa.gov/lead, or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)** for a list of contacts in your area.³

³ Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

What You Can Do Now to Protect Your Family

If you suspect that your house has lead-based paint hazards, you can take some immediate steps to reduce your family's risk:

- If you rent, notify your landlord of peeling or chipping paint.
- Keep painted surfaces clean and free of dust. Clean floors, window frames, window sills, and other surfaces weekly. Use a mop or sponge with warm water and a general all-purpose cleaner. (Remember: never mix ammonia and bleach products together because they can form a dangerous gas.)
- Carefully clean up paint chips immediately without creating dust.
- Thoroughly rinse sponges and mop heads often during cleaning of dirty or dusty areas, and again afterward.
- Wash your hands and your children's hands often, especially before they eat and before nap time and bed time.
- Keep play areas clean. Wash bottles, pacifiers, toys, and stuffed animals regularly.
- Keep children from chewing window sills or other painted surfaces, or eating soil.
- When renovating, repairing, or painting, hire only EPA- or state-approved Lead-Safe Certified renovation firms (see page 12).
- Clean or remove shoes before entering your home to avoid tracking in lead from soil.
- Make sure children eat nutritious, low-fat meals high in iron, and calcium, such as spinach and dairy products. Children with good diets absorb less lead.

Reducing Lead Hazards

Disturbing lead-based paint or removing lead improperly can increase the hazard to your family by spreading even more lead dust around the house.



- In addition to day-to-day cleaning and good nutrition, you can **temporarily** reduce lead-based paint hazards by taking actions, such as repairing damaged painted surfaces and planting grass to cover lead-contaminated soil. These actions are not permanent solutions and will need ongoing attention.
- You can minimize exposure to lead when renovating, repairing, or painting by hiring an EPA- or state-certified renovator who is trained in the use of lead-safe work practices. If you are a do-it-yourselfer, learn how to use lead-safe work practices in your home.
- To remove lead hazards permanently, you should hire a certified lead abatement contractor. Abatement (or permanent hazard elimination) methods include removing, sealing, or enclosing lead-based paint with special materials. Just painting over the hazard with regular paint is not permanent control.

Always use a certified contractor who is trained to address lead hazards safely.

- Hire a Lead-Safe Certified firm (see page 12) to perform renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects that disturb painted surfaces.
- To correct lead hazards permanently, hire a certified lead abatement contractor. This will ensure your contractor knows how to work safely and has the proper equipment to clean up thoroughly.

Certified contractors will employ qualified workers and follow strict safety rules as set by their state or by the federal government.

Reducing Lead Hazards, continued

If your home has had lead abatement work done or if the housing is receiving federal assistance, once the work is completed, dust cleanup activities must be conducted until clearance testing indicates that lead dust levels are below the following levels:

- 10 micrograms per square foot ($\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$) for floors, including carpeted floors
- 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for interior windows sills
- 400 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for window troughs

Abatements are designed to permanently eliminate lead-based paint hazards. However, lead dust can be reintroduced into an abated area.

- Use a HEPA vacuum on all furniture and other items returned to the area, to reduce the potential for reintroducing lead dust.
- Regularly clean floors, window sills, troughs, and other hard surfaces with a damp cloth or sponge and a general all-purpose cleaner.

Please see page 9 for more information on steps you can take to protect your home after the abatement. For help in locating certified lead abatement professionals in your area, call your state or local agency (see pages 15 and 16), [epa.gov/lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead), or call 1-800-424-LEAD.

Renovating, Repairing or Painting a Home with Lead-Based Paint

If you hire a contractor to conduct renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or childcare facility (such as pre-school and kindergarten), your contractor must:

- Be a Lead-Safe Certified firm approved by EPA or an EPA-authorized state program
- Use qualified trained individuals (Lead-Safe Certified renovators) who follow specific lead-safe work practices to prevent lead contamination
- Provide a copy of EPA's lead hazard information document, *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*



RRP contractors working in pre-1978 homes and childcare facilities must follow lead-safe work practices that:

- **Contain the work area.** The area must be contained so that dust and debris do not escape from the work area. Warning signs must be put up, and plastic or other impermeable material and tape must be used.
- **Avoid renovation methods that generate large amounts of lead-contaminated dust.** Some methods generate so much lead-contaminated dust that their use is prohibited. They are:
 - Open-flame burning or torching
 - Sanding, grinding, planing, needle gunning, or blasting with power tools and equipment not equipped with a shroud and HEPA vacuum attachment
 - Using a heat gun at temperatures greater than 1100°F
- **Clean up thoroughly.** The work area should be cleaned up daily. When all the work is done, the area must be cleaned up using special cleaning methods.
- **Dispose of waste properly.** Collect and seal waste in a heavy duty bag or sheeting. When transported, ensure that waste is contained to prevent release of dust and debris.

To learn more about EPA's requirements for RRP projects, visit epa.gov/getleadsafe, or read *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*.

Other Sources of Lead

Lead in Drinking Water

The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures.

Lead pipes are more likely to be found in older cities and homes built before 1986.

You can't smell or taste lead in drinking water.

To find out for certain if you have lead in drinking water, have your water tested.

Remember older homes with a private well can also have plumbing materials that contain lead.

Important Steps You Can Take to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

- Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Remember, boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes.
- Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator).
- If you use a filter certified to remove lead, don't forget to read the directions to learn when to change the cartridge. Using a filter after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead.

Contact your water company to determine if the pipe that connects your home to the water main (called a service line) is made from lead. Your area's water company can also provide information about the lead levels in your system's drinking water.

For more information about lead in drinking water, please contact EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. If you have other questions about lead poisoning prevention, call 1-800 424-LEAD.*

Call your local health department or water company to find out about testing your water, or visit [epa.gov/safewater](https://www.epa.gov/safewater) for EPA's lead in drinking water information. Some states or utilities offer programs to pay for water testing for residents. Contact your state or local water company to learn more.

* Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

Other Sources of Lead, continued

- **Lead smelters** or other industries that release lead into the air.
- **Your job.** If you work with lead, you could bring it home on your body or clothes. Shower and change clothes before coming home. Launder your work clothes separately from the rest of your family's clothes.
- **Hobbies** that use lead, such as making pottery or stained glass, or refinishing furniture. Call your local health department for information about hobbies that may use lead.
- Old **toys** and **furniture** may have been painted with lead-containing paint. Older toys and other children's products may have parts that contain lead.⁴
- Food and liquids cooked or stored in **lead crystal** or **lead-glazed pottery or porcelain** may contain lead.
- Folk remedies, such as "**greta**" and "**azarcon,**" used to treat an upset stomach.

⁴ In 1978, the federal government banned toys, other children's products, and furniture with lead-containing paint. In 2008, the federal government banned lead in most children's products. The federal government currently bans lead in excess of 100 ppm by weight in most children's products.

For More Information

The National Lead Information Center

Learn how to protect children from lead poisoning and get other information about lead hazards on the Web at epa.gov/lead and hud.gov/lead, or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)**.

EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline

For information about lead in drinking water, call **1-800-426-4791**, or visit epa.gov/safewater for information about lead in drinking water.

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Hotline

For information on lead in toys and other consumer products, or to report an unsafe consumer product or a product-related injury, call **1-800-638-2772**, or visit CPSC's website at cpsc.gov or saferproducts.gov.

State and Local Health and Environmental Agencies

Some states, tribes, and cities have their own rules related to lead-based paint. Check with your local agency to see which laws apply to you. Most agencies can also provide information on finding a lead abatement firm in your area, and on possible sources of financial aid for reducing lead hazards. Receive up-to-date address and phone information for your state or local contacts on the Web at epa.gov/lead, or contact the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD**.

Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access any of the phone numbers in this brochure through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at **1-800-877-8339**.

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Offices

The mission of EPA is to protect human health and the environment. Your Regional EPA Office can provide further information regarding regulations and lead protection programs.

Region 1 (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100, OES 05-4
Boston, MA 02109-3912
(888) 372-7341

Region 2 (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 2
2890 Woodbridge Avenue
Building 205, Mail Stop 225
Edison, NJ 08837-3679
(732) 906-6809

Region 3 (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, DC, West Virginia)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 814-2088

Region 4 (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 4
AFC Tower, 12th Floor, Air, Pesticides & Toxics
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 562-8998

Region 5 (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 5 (LL-17J)
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3666
(312) 353-3808

Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and 66 Tribes)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, 12th Floor
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
(214) 665-2704

Region 7 (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 7
11201 Renner Blvd.
Lenexa, KS 66219
(800) 223-0425

Region 8 (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 312-6966

Region 9 (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 9 (CMD-4-2)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 947-4280

Region 10 (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 10 (20-C04)
Air and Toxics Enforcement Section
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 553-1200

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

The CPSC protects the public against unreasonable risk of injury from consumer products through education, safety standards activities, and enforcement. Contact CPSC for further information regarding consumer product safety and regulations.

CPSC

4330 East West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814-4421
1-800-638-2772

cpsc.gov or saferproducts.gov

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. Contact to Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes for further information regarding the Lead Safe Housing Rule, which protects families in pre-1978 assisted housing, and for the lead hazard control and research grant programs.

HUD

451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 8236
Washington, DC 20410-3000
(202) 402-7698

hud.gov/lead

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U. S. EPA Washington DC 20460
U. S. CPSC Bethesda MD 20814
U. S. HUD Washington DC 20410

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IMPORTANT!

Lead From Paint, Dust, and Soil in and Around Your Home Can Be Dangerous if Not Managed Properly

- Children under 6 years old are most at risk for lead poisoning in your home.
- Lead exposure can harm young children and babies even before they are born.
- Homes, schools, and child care facilities built before 1978 are likely to contain lead-based paint.
- Even children who seem healthy may have dangerous levels of lead in their bodies.
- Disturbing surfaces with lead-based paint or removing lead-based paint improperly can increase the danger to your family.
- People can get lead into their bodies by breathing or swallowing lead dust, or by eating soil or paint chips containing lead.
- People have many options for reducing lead hazards. Generally, lead-based paint that is in good condition is not a hazard (see page 10).