Burlington's New Lead-Based Paint Ordinance

In February 2009, the Burlington City Council unanimously approved the Minimum Housing Amendments related to Lead Paint. This ordinance will give the Burlington Code Enforcement Office explicit authority to ensure compliance with existing Federal and State laws. **Code Enforcement Inspectors will check for compliance with all requirements noted below, and will issue orders for compliance. These requirements are part of the Burlington Minimum Housing Code.**

If you own pre-1978 rental housing units, you are responsible for complying with the State of VT Lead Law a.k.a. the EMP (Essential Maintenance Practices) Law:

- Perform annual visible assessment and repair areas (interior and exterior) using Lead Safe Work Practices if disturbing more than 1 ft^2 of painted surfaces, followed by proper cleaning
- Post City Notification Poster prior to disturbing more than 1 ft^2 of exterior painted surfaces
- Coil stock window wells
- Keep outside areas free from paint chips
- Annual proper cleaning of common areas
- Post State of Vermont EMP poster
- Provide tenants with appropriate EPA brochure
- Properly clean unit at tenant turnover
- Complete State of Vermont Compliance Statement and submit to the Health Dept, tenants and (upon request) the Code Enforcement Office
- Disclose to tenant any known Lead-Based Paint activity

If you own a pre-1978 dwelling, you are responsible for:

- Using Lead Safe Work Practices when disturbing more than 1 ft^2 of exterior painted surfaces
- Posting the City Notification Poster prior to disturbing more than 1 ft^2 of exterior painted surfaces

If you are a contractor working in a pre-1978 dwelling, you are responsible for complying with the existing Federal Pre-Renovation Rule:

- Provide owner and occupant with appropriate EPA brochure prior to commencement of work that will disturb more than 1 ft^2 of interior or exterior painted surfaces

Note: The Federal Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule will supersede the Pre-Renovation Rule in April 2010. Contractors will be responsible for complying with the RRP Rule at that time.

The following activities are prohibited on all pre-1978 dwellings:

- Dry scraping
- Open flame burning
- Uncontained power washing
- Heat guns over 1100° F
- Uncontained sandblasting
- Power sanding (unless fitted with HEPA filter)
- Chemical stripping using products with methylene chloride

If you require guidance on how to comply with the lead paint requirements above, using Lead Safe Work Practices, or proper cleaning techniques, please contact: the Burlington Lead Program at 865-LEAD or visit the CEDO website at www.cedoburlington.com. Please contact the Code Enforcement Office at 863-0442 for general questions about minimum housing (rental property) requirements and inspections.