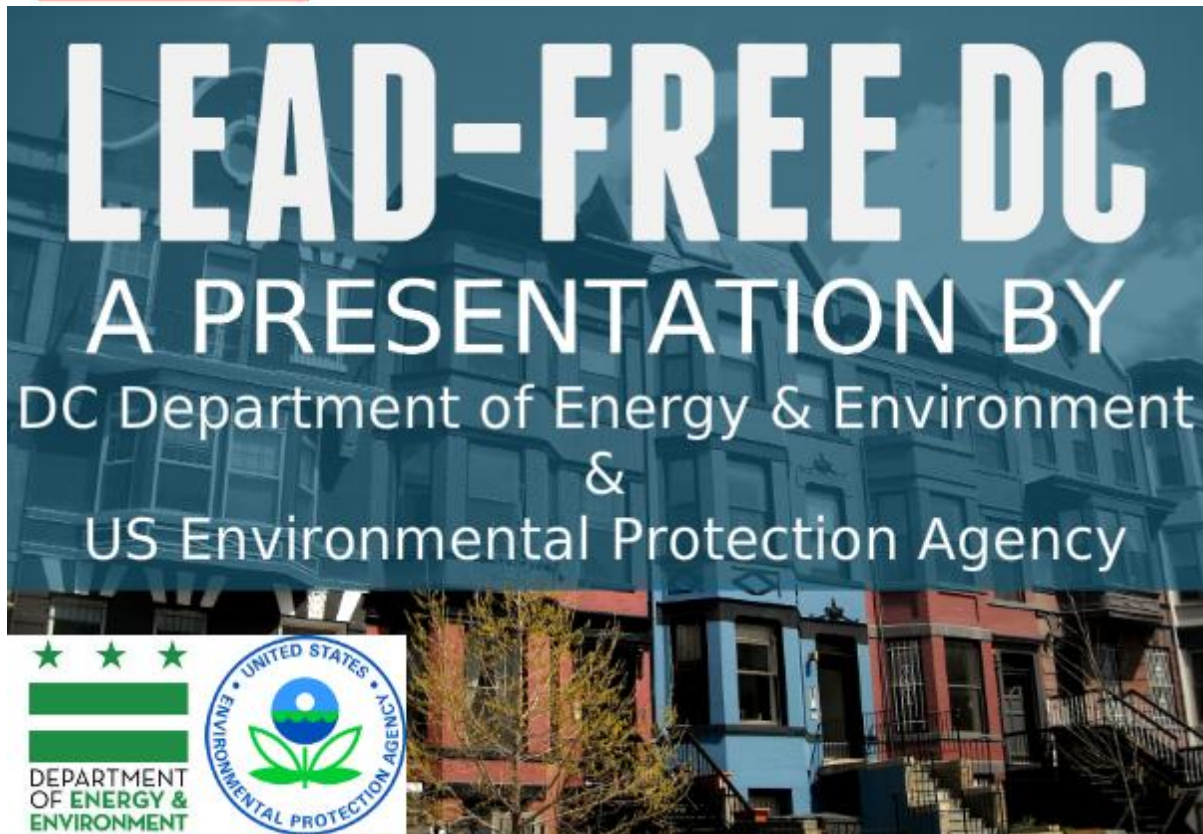




DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

A state-level REALTOR® Association

representing residential and commercial members



Lead Safety 101

How You Can Protect Families

Recently DOEE and the US EPA gave joint briefing to address lead regulation for homes and families. DCAR members were given exclusive access to the facts and a great Q&A session.

Lead poisoning is one of the most preventable crises facing homeowners in DC and across the nation. In an effort to help spread vital information, we invited Pierre Erville from DOEE and Cindy Wheeler from the EPA to discuss the importance of preventing lead poisoning.



Fact: Lead poisoning is a preventable crisis. Get the facts and have your (and your clients') home tested by a certified professional.

DCAR members experienced over an hour of informative presentations from the EPA and DOEE, which is too much to cover in a single article. Some of the main points will be addressed below, but you may [download the DOEE presentation](#) for your convenience. The presentation explains more about laws, safety and the lead disclosure form.

What are major exposure risks?

There are several indications of lead paint exposure and contamination. There are tell-tale signs, which include:

- Non-intact painted conditions
- Lead dust particles generated by friction or impact
- Lead dust particles generated by renovation work
- Lead-contaminated bare soil.

What is an at-risk home?

According to DC Code, "All dwelling units, common areas of multifamily properties, and child-occupied facilities constructed prior to 1978 shall be maintained free of lead-based paint hazards." - D.C. Code § 8-231.02(a)

What is the risk to DC homes?

According to the District's Office of Planning, roughly 90% of single family homes are pre-'78. Multifamily homes are also 80% likely to be pre-'78 as well. The totals show that more than 250,000 DC homes are pre-'78.

What can I do about detection and abatement?

No matter if you are a homeowner, parent or professional, you can find local and certified professionals via the [EPA's online tools](#). It is also possible to attain a lead-based paint accreditation, certification and permitting through the [DOEE certification program](#).

Who may I contact for more information?

You may reach Pierre Erville at pierre.erville@dc.gov.



From L-R: Pierre Erville (DOEE) Ed Wood (2015 DCAR President) Cindy Wheeler (EPA).

This event was a part of the EPA's ongoing Lead-Free Kids Initiative to spread call on neighbors to prevent lead poisoning. Exposure to lead can seriously harm a child's health and children under age 6 are most at risk for lead poisoning.

We would like to thank Pierre Erville from DOEE and Cindy Wheeler from the EPA for giving our members the opportunity to learn more about preventing lead poisoning. Keep an eye out for our emails to connect with local leaders and officials.



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