

Lead Paint Hazards and Radon Dangers at Home

Older Windows

If your home was built before 1978 and you still have the original windows, it's time to seriously consider replacing your windows -- especially if you have young children or a pregnant person living in the home.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the routine opening and closing of windows in homes built prior to 1978 can disturb lead-based paint around the windows, causing paint dust and chips to be released into the air. These lead particles are so dangerous that the EPA now requires contractors to be trained and certified before they can perform any renovation, repair or painting projects that may have previously applied lead-based paint.

"Research indicates that the everyday activity of opening and closing windows creates friction that then allows lead dust to enter the air," says Rick Nevin, a consultant to the National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH). "This dust is invisible to the naked eye, yet it can contaminate the home and expose residents to this harmful substance.

"Young children, whose developmental skills and brain functions are subjected to the lead dust, can be especially negatively impacted. Children can

absorb the lead dust from crawling on the floor where the dust settles. Toddlers put their hands in their mouths ... and after playing on the floor near a window, they can easily transfer the lead dust into their mouths. The ingested lead travels through the bloodstream to a child's developing brain, causing many types of neurobehavioral damage."

Nevin relates that the most common problem with lead in paint is not that a child is eating paint chips -- it's that the child may be exposed every day to unseen contaminated lead dust particles that have settled in household dust. The lead-contaminated dust is often connected with the operation of the window.

According to Nevin, one of the most important long-term investments a homeowner can make for the overall safety of a family is to replace older windows, using the EPA-approved lead safe renovation guidelines. "If you live in a home built before 1978, and you have single-pane windows, replace them now," says Nevin. "This is one of the only ways to reduce lead risks for your family. Make sure to use only a contractor that is certified in lead-safe work practices and strongly consider the use of ENERGY STAR(R) qualified windows, like the vinyl replacement windows

offered by Simonton Windows. These windows are a healthy choice for replacing older single-pane units. They're energy-efficient and a good value for the investment."

Nevin explains that homeowners need to understand there are four key steps to completing a "lead-safe window replacement strategy" for the home. "First, replace all single-pane windows with ENERGY STAR(R) qualified windows," says Nevin. "Second, stabilize any significantly deteriorated paint. Third, perform specialized cleaning to remove any lead-contaminated dust. And finally, perform dust wipe tests to confirm the absence of lead dust hazards after the clean up."

Did you know that radon is the second leading contributor to lung cancer behind cigarette smoking?

This invisible gas -- even in low or moderate levels -- can cause severe health implications. Although you can't see, smell or taste radon, it could be a problem in your home.

Radon is a radioactive, naturally occurring gas that forms from the breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water. It gets into the air you breathe and can be especially dangerous at home where you spend most of your time. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says radon causes 21,000 lung cancer deaths per year in the United States.

The hazard arises from inhalation of radon gas and its highly radioactive heavy metallic decay products (polonium, lead and bismuth), which collect on

dust in the air. These elements can stick to the delicate cells lining the passageways leading into the lungs.

Testing for radon is the only definitive way to know whether it is present. If your radon level is 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) or higher, steps should be taken to reduce radon. Radon reduction kits can reduce radon by up to 99 percent, and they're generally inexpensive.

You can also call in a professional radon mitigator. Some professionals are licensed and others have been certified through The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), which administers a voluntary National Radon Proficiency Program (NRPP) for radon professionals who want to take training courses and examinations to demonstrate their competency.



BRIAR HILL
RUSTIC FURNITURE

& GIFT SHOPPE

Huge Furniture Sale

20% Off In-Stock Finished Outdoor Furniture

Only 15 Minutes from Clarion





Hurry In
Sale Ends April 30th

4169 Route 36 • Leeper www.briarhillfurniture.com
Located 2 Miles South of Leeper on Rt. 36 **866.744.9913**



SALES EVENT



FREE Sink Base* & 65% OFF Our Everyday Low Prices PLUS... 50% OFF All Plywood Construction Upgrades!

Now through April 30, 2011

TIONESTA BUILDERS SUPPLY
Rt. 36 - 5 Miles South of Tionesta • 755-3561 or 755-3474
Rt. 66 Shippensburg - 226-5040 or 226-5041
Open Daily 8-5 • Sat. 8-2
PA 019337



TOYOTA #1 FOR A REASON*

#1 Retail Brand for the Last 4 years**

New 2011 Camry LE
Gas Engine, 4 Cyl., Automatic, Power Windows, Power Locks
MSRP \$23,050



36 Mo Lease \$239mo[†]
+\$0 Due at Signing



New 2011 Rav4
Automatic, 4 Cylinder, 4x4, Power Windows, Power Locks
MSRP \$24,355



36 Mo Lease \$209mo[†]
+\$1999 Due at Signing

0% APR FINANCING^{††}

FOR UP TO **5 YRS**



NEW 2011 CAMRYS
(INCLUDING HYBRIDS)



NEW 2010 YARIS



NEW 2010 MATRIX



NEW 2010 COROLLA



NEW 2011 AVALON



NEW 2011 RAV4



NEW 2011 HIGHLANDER
(EXCLUDES HYBRIDS)



NEW 2011 TUNDRRA

Sale		Sale		Sale	
2010 Tacoma 4x4 Access Cab 5 Speed	\$23,990	2009 Corolla LE	\$15,990	2007 Camry LE	\$16,990
2010 Corolla LE	\$18,050	2008 Highlander SR5	\$22,990	2007 Sienna LE	\$18,990
2010 Corolla LE	\$15,990	2008 Camry LE	\$16,990	2007 Camry Hybrid	\$17,990
2010 Corolla LE	\$18,050	2008 Scion XB	\$13,990	2007 Tacoma 4x4 Access Cab TRD	\$24,990
2010 Corolla LE	\$15,990	2008 Tacoma 4x4 Double Cab SR5	\$26,990	2006 Corolla LE	\$12,990
2010 Corolla LE	\$15,990	2008 Avalon Limited	\$22,990	2006 Jeep Commander Limited	\$21,990
2009 Rav4 SR5	SOLD!	2008 Solara SLE	\$20,990	2005 Tundra SR5	\$20,990
2009 Corolla	\$14,990	2008 Scion TC	\$16,590	2005 Tacoma 4x4 Double Cab TRD	\$19,990
2009 Camry XLE	\$18,990	2008 Tacoma 4x4 Base V6 Auto	\$20,990	2005 Tacoma 4x4 Double Cab TRD	\$21,990
2009 Camry LE	\$17,990	2008 Pontiac Vibe	\$11,990	2005 Camry LE	\$11,990
2009 Camry LE	\$17,990	2007 Highlander Limited	\$23,990	2004 Tacoma 4x4	\$14,990
2009 Camry LE	\$18,990	2007 Tacoma 4x4 Access Cab 6 Speed	\$21,990	2004 Camry LE V6	\$10,990
2009 Matrix	\$13,990	2007 Subaru Legacy Outback	\$16,990	2002 Highlander SR5	\$14,990
2009 Tacoma 4x4 Base 5 Speed	\$22,990	2007 Camry LE	\$14,990		

These and Much More at www.AlleghenyToyotaPA.com

ALLEGHENY TOYOTA & SCION

722 Allegheny Blvd., Franklin, PA • 814-437-7884

136 MONTH LEASE ON APPROVED CREDIT THROUGH TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. PLUS TAX, TITLE, LICENSE AND DEALER FEES. 12,000 MILES PER YEAR. *TOYOTA IS THE #1 CHOICE AMONG SHOPPERS BASED ON TOYOTA RETAIL BRAND SALES CY2010. BASED ON MANUFACTURERS' SALES CY2007 THROUGH CY2010. 10% APR FINANCING UP TO 60 MONTHS AVAILABLE TO QUALIFIED BUYERS THRU TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. TOTAL FINANCED CANNOT EXCEED MSRP OPTIONS, TAX AND LICENSE FEES. 60 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$16.67 FOR EACH \$1000 BORROWED. (EXCLUDES COROLLA S MODEL) NOT ALL BUYERS WILL QUALIFY. 0% APR FINANCING AND MANUFACTURERS REBATE CANNOT BE COMBINED. OFFERS END 4/4/11.