

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Lead Hazard Standards in Paint, Dust, and Soil

Toxic Substances Control Act Section 403 Promulgated by USEPA, 2001
Louisiana Administrative Code 33:III.2811.A. Lead Hazard Standards
Incorporated by LDEQ, 2002

As part of LDEQ's ongoing efforts to protect children from lead poisoning, the agency adopted and incorporated USEPA lead hazard standards (TSCA 403, 2001) related to lead hazards in paint, dust and soil. The standards provide uniform benchmarks to federal and state agencies, as well as local and tribal governments, on which to base remedial actions taken to protect children and the public from the dangers of lead.

The standards also apply to other federal lead provisions, such as EPA's real estate disclosure requirements (TSCA 1018) currently in place for persons selling or renting a home or apartment. The lead hazard standards provide landlords, parents, schools, playground administrators, and childcare providers with specific levels on which to make informed decisions regarding lead found in their homes, yards, and play areas.

Lead in paint can be a hazard when it flakes or becomes dust through wear. Lead in dust or soil is a hazard when equal to or exceeding:

- **40 micrograms per square foot of lead in dust on floors**
- **250 micrograms per square foot of lead in dust on interior window sills**
- **400 parts per million (ppm) of lead in bare soil in children's play areas**
- **1200 ppm average for bare soil in the rest of the yard.**

The lead hazard standards allow inspectors and risk assessors to assist property owners in deciding how to address problems which may include interim controls or management in place, lead paint abatement, covering or removing soil or professional cleaning of lead dust.

The LDEQ is the state agency authorized by the USEPA to implement and enforce the Lead Hazard Reduction Activities program. The lead hazard reduction activities and standards encompassed in the EPA rule are enforced by LDEQ and are incorporated in LAC33.III.2801-2819. The lead hazard standards are cited specifically in LAC33.III.2811.A and are the same standards as listed above.