

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER



125 WORTH STREET, CN-28
NEW YORK, NY 10013
NYC.GOV/HEALTH

December 3, 2004

THOMAS R. FRIEDEN, M.D., M.P.H.
COMMISSIONER
TEL (212) 788-5261
FAX (212) 964-0472

PROMINENTLY POST THE ENCLOSED SIGN
WARNING THAT DRY SANDING OR DRY SCRAPING LEAD PAINT IS PROHIBITED

Dear Storeowner,

Lead paint is a poison. Children may ingest lead dust and lead paint chips which could result in learning and behavior problems. Dry scraping and dry sanding are major sources of lead dust and paint chips. The law requires that only wet methods be used for sanding and scraping lead paint (or paint of unknown lead content) in homes, day cares, and schools.

A new New York City Health Code provision requires you to post the enclosed sign if your store sells paint or paint removal products. You must also post this sign if your store sells or rents paint removal or sanding equipment. Posting, or otherwise distributing this sign to customers, is required by the New York City Health Code §173.13 (a)(2). The sign is an important way to reach customers who conduct building repairs and renovations.

If your store sells or rents the products mentioned above and does not post the sign or distribute this information, the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs and/or the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) may issue violation(s) with fines of \$200 to \$2,000.

If you have any questions about this requirement or other lead paint related issues, contact the DOHMH Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 311. Replacement signs can be obtained by calling 311.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Frieden, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Gretchen Dykstra
Commissioner
Department of Consumer Affairs