

HOUSE CLEANING PROTOCOL TO REMOVE LEAD CONTAMINATED DUST

Houses will be cleaned in a six-phased approach:

- 1) Remove of Bulk Dust and Soils:** Accessible dusts and soils will be cleared from common areas, rooms and storage locations by an initial sweeping and vacuuming.
- 2) Remove Furniture and Personal Items:** Furniture and personal effects will be removed from each room.
- 3) Clean Individual Rooms:** Private rooms will be cleaned using the specific three step protocols detailed below.
- 4) Clean Hallways and Common Areas:** All hallways and central areas will then be thoroughly cleaned following the same three-step process.
- 5) Clean furniture and personal items:** Hard furniture, upholstered furniture, cushions, pillows and fabrics such as blankets and curtains will be washed following the procedures detailed below.
- 6) Return cleaned furniture and personal items into the house.**

General rules that apply to all procedures:

1. Always clean from **top to bottom**, and from one side of the room to the other.
2. Always **remove all visible dirt and dust**.
3. All dry vacuuming should be done with a HEPA filter vacuum if possible. (**HEPA**: High Efficiency Particulate Air filter. HEPA filters can remove fine dust particulates greater with 99.97%

efficiency.)

4. New mop heads, rags, sponges, and gloves should be used at each house.
5. Use ample water during washing.
6. Do a final HEPA vacuuming or wiping with rags after all surfaces have dried.

SPECIFIC PROCEDURES:

I. Cleaning of Rooms and Common Areas:

- 1. Vacuuming:** After all personal items have been removed from a room, vacuum the entire room with a high quality vacuum, preferably a HEPA vacuum. Begin at the top and work down (start with the ceiling, then move down the walls). Pay extra attention to windowsills and corners. Start at the end farthest from the main doorway and move towards the door. Vacuum slowly so the vacuum can pick up all lead dust.
- 2. Wet Wash and Rinse Walls and Ceilings:** After vacuuming, the entire room is wet-washed with detergent and water using a three bucket system. One bucket and contains clean water and detergent, the second bucket contains clean rinse water, and the third starts empty. Apply the detergent wash water to the surface with a rag, sponge or, preferably, a garden sprayer, using water from the first bucket. Scrub surfaces with a brush. Start with the ceiling, and then move down the walls. Pay extra attention to windowsills and corners. Wring the dirty water from mops, rags, and brushes into the empty third bucket. Rinse the brushes, rags, sponges and mops in the second bucket. Apply additional wash water to brushes and cleaning surface from the first bucket.

When washing is done, empty the buckets and an refill the first and second buckets with clean water. Rinse the ceiling and walls with clean water from the first bucket containing clean water, using clean rags or a garden sprayer. Wring the brushes, mops and rags

in the third bucket and rinse the brushes and rags in the second water bucket.

- 3. Wet Wash and Rinse Floors:** After everything else in the room has been cleaned, wash the floors. Start at the end away from the main doorway and move towards the door. Use a three-bucket system as for the walls, with one bucket contains clean water and detergent, a second containing clean rinse water, and the third empty. Dip a brush in the detergent wash in the first bucket. Scrub a small section of the floor. Dip a mop in bucket and mop the same area that was scrubbed. Wring out the mop in an empty bucket and rinse the mop and brush in the second bucket. Repeat this process across the entire floor. A wet-dry vacuum may be used to remove all water on the floor following the mopping, or the area may be wiped with rags. Be sure to brush and mop in several directions in all areas, rather than brushing and mopping in the same direction all the time.

After the entire floor surface has been scrubbed and cleaned with detergent, a final rinse with clean water will be done. A bucket with clean water will be used with a new mop to rinse the floor. Wring the mop into an empty bucket after mopping each section, and rinse the mop in the clean bucket and wring again into the empty bucket before moving on to the next section. Dry the floor with clean rags or, if available, a wet-dry vacuum, following closely behind the mopping. Particular attention should be given to remove rinse water from cracks, holes and other irregular surfaces. The rags should show no dirt.

II. Cleaning procedures for furniture and other personal items:

- 1. Hard Furniture:** All hard furniture (wood, plastic, glass, metal, etc.) should first be vacuumed then should be washed similarly to walls.
- 2. Soft Furniture:** Vacuum all soft surface furniture (couches, chairs, etc.) in one direction (horizontally) and then the opposite (vertically) at 5 seconds for a one foot pass. Use a high quality vacuum, preferable a HEPA vacuum. Cushions should be cleaned on both sides (i.e., all outside edges). Pillows should be cleaned in the same manner as furniture. Mattresses and springs should be dry vacuumed on all outer surfaces.
- 3. Fabrics:** Removable covers on cushions or pillows should be taken off and washed similarly to clothing. Curtains and any quilts or blankets that normally lay on the furniture should also be washed similarly to clothing. Use ample water during washing and rinse the washed fabrics at least twice with clean water.
- 4. Appliances:** Appliances such as TVs, refrigerators, stoves, lamps, etc. should be moved in order to vacuum and wet clean underneath. Appliances should be vacuumed and wet washed if possible on all sides and underneath similarly to walls. *All appliances should be unplugged prior to any cleaning!*

III. Disposal of cleaning supplies:

Dirty wash water will be collected and disposed of in a selected site. Used mop heads and rags shall be thrown away and taken to a designated disposal site with the rest of the household waste from this project.