0:00
[Music]
0:08
Floods can cause significant damage to homes, which may require major renovations.
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If your home has lead-based paint, renovation activities like sanding, cutting, and demolition,
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can create lead-based paint hazards. These hazards, which include lead-contaminated dust,
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can harm children and adults. They can lead to learning disabilities and behavioral problems.
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Housing built before 1978 may have building materials that contain lead-based paint.
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Check your local property tax records or ask your landlord or property manager to find out
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when your home or apartment was built. If you can't find out when it was built,
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but think it may be before 1978, take precautions to protect your family.
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If you think your home may contain lead-based paint,
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test your home. A lead inspection or risk assessment can be performed by
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an EPA- or state-certified Lead Inspector or Lead Risk Assessor.
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For repairs, hire only EPA- or state-certified Lead-Safe Renovators since they have completed
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special training in lead-safe work practices to protect your health.
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If you plan to do any work in the home,
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take these steps to protect you and your family from exposure to lead dust:
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Always keep children, pregnant women, and pets out of the work area.
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Wear the right protective gear. Ensure you wear an N-100,
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R-100, or P-100 mask to prevent breathing leaded dust.
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Cover work areas with plastic sheeting to catch paint debris from removal activities.
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Use wet methods in deconstruction and demolition.

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Wet-mist an area before drilling, cutting or scraping.
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When removing materials such as windows and drywall,
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pry and pull them away and minimize pounding and hammering which can produce dust.
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Collect and seal paint and renovation debris in plastic bags or tarps.
2:01
Dispose of them properly, don't reuse them.
2:05
Clean up thoroughly by using a HEPA vacuum and wet wiping to clean up dust and debris on surfaces.
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Make sure you clean ceilings and walls if you have you been creating dust during the removal process.
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Mop floors with plenty of rinse water before removing plastic from doors, windows, and vents.
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Get a lead dust cleaning verification test or a clearance examination,
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if possible, by a certified lead professional.
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If you suspect that you or your child may have been exposed to lead,
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contact your pediatrician, general physician, or local health agency about what you can do.
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You can learn more about lead-based paint and search for EPA certified firms
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at epa.gov/lead or call the National Lead Information Center.
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For more in depth information on some of the steps described in this video visit epa.gov/lead.