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Governor

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Secretary of
Commerce and Trade

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Erik C. Johnston
Director

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

TO: Virginia Building Officials

FROM: Jeff Brown, State Building Codes Office Director
Division of Building & Fire Regulations

DATE: September 17, 2020

RE: EPA RRP Outreach Letter

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently sent a letter ([copy available here](#)) to Virginia building officials regarding the RRP Rule and contractor certification requirements. After receiving several inquiries regarding the letter, we followed up with the EPA to get some additional information.

I spoke to Noelle Watanabe at the EPA and she confirmed that the outreach letter was sent to all building officials in EPA Region III states in an effort to increase contractor awareness of the EPA requirements for contractors performing lead work. The suggestion in the letter to add a checkbox on permit applications was just one of EPA's suggested ways to increase contractor awareness of the EPA certification requirements. Providing contractor's with information on the EPA lead contractor requirements by distributing EPA's brochures would also be helpful in ensuring that all contractors are aware of the requirements.

Helpful links to additional information and brochures from the EPA, including information on how you can report a suspected violation of the RRP Rule are attached.

For additional information on "USBC and Lead Paint Hazard Abatement" as well as other USBC related topics, see Building and Fire Regulations' Informational Documents and Publications page here: <https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/informational-documents-and-publications>

cc: Cindy Davis, Deputy Director, Division of Building and Fire Regulations

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Information provided by the EPA:

Here are informational brochures that can be distributed to contractors, explaining the RRP Rule requirements. We can send some hard copies for distribution in your code/permit offices and for your code officials/inspectors to carry and distribute as well. Just contact Watanabe.Noelle@epa.gov and let her know where to send them:

Contractor Tri-Fold:

https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-05/documents/contractors_lead_safety_during_renovations_508.pdf

Small Entity Compliance Guide to Renovate Right:

https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-03/documents/small_entity_guide_9-23-11_w_new_cover.pdf

Renovate Right:

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/renovaterightbrochure.pdf>

Additional Information:

Renovation firms can sign up to **get EPA Lead-Safe Firm Certified** at

<https://www.epa.gov/lead/getcertified>

For additional information on the benefits and requirements of the RRP Rule, and to learn about lead, contractors can visit the RRP Program Webpage:

<https://www.epa.gov/lead/renovation-repair-and-painting-program-contractors>

EPA's Lead Website: www.epa.gov/lead

Or call EPA's Lead Hotline: 1-800-424-LEAD [5323]

Finally, please note that your code or permitting officials can make referrals/tips to EPA Region 3 enforcement division if they encounter a suspected violation of the RRP Rule. The short tip/complaint form is found at www.epa.gov/tips

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