

Panhandle

Public Health District

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Three Local Businesses Complete Lead Abatement Training, Expanding Lead-Safe Services in the Nebraska Panhandle

Three local businesses have successfully completed an intensive week-long training program to become certified lead abatement contractors, increasing the availability of qualified professionals who can safely remove lead hazards from homes throughout the Nebraska Panhandle.

The newly trained contractors are:

- Blue Ladder Renovations, LLC
- Stonegate Seamless Roofing & Construction
- Continuity Corp

These companies join JIL Carpentry, LLC, which previously completed the training and is already certified to perform lead abatement work in the region.

The training represents a significant commitment by these businesses to invest in specialized skills that help protect the health and safety of local families. By becoming certified lead abatement contractors, these companies are now qualified to identify, contain, and remove lead hazards in homes built before 1978, reducing the risk of lead exposure during renovation and repair projects.

"We are grateful to these businesses for investing their time and resources to become certified lead abatement contractors," said Kendra Lauruhn, Panhandle Public Health District's Lead Hazard Prevention Program Manager. "Their commitment not only strengthens their professional expertise but also helps ensure that homeowners in our communities have access to contractors who can perform this critical work safely and effectively."

Lead-based paint was commonly used in homes built before 1978. When lead paint deteriorates or is disturbed during renovation activities, it can create lead dust and chips that are especially harmful to young children.



Lead poisoning can cause serious and lifelong health effects, including:

- Lower IQ and impaired brain development
- Decreased ability to pay attention
- Learning and behavioral challenges
- Underperformance in school

The newly trained contractors will play an important role in supporting the Panhandle Public Health District's (PPHD) Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program, which provides funding for eligible homeowners, landlords, and renters living in homes built before 1978. The grant helps reduce or eliminate lead hazards in qualifying homes at no cost to eligible households. By increasing the number of certified contractors in the region, more families will have access to trained professionals who can complete lead-safe repairs and lead hazard reduction work funded through the program.

"Safe housing is an important part of healthy communities," said Chris Christopherson, Lead Hazard Reduction Coordinator. "These contractors are helping make our region safer for children and families, and their certification strengthens our ability to address lead hazards throughout the Panhandle."

Residents interested in learning more about lead poisoning prevention or determining eligibility for the Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program can contact Chris at Panhandle Public Health District at 308-760-5757 or visit www.pphd.ne.gov.

Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work, and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community.