A Homeowner and Renter’s Guide to Safe Cleaning of Lead Paint Chips and Dust

STEP ONE: Prepare Supplies

1. **Prepare.** Gather rubber gloves, throw-away wipes or towels, garbage bags, spray bottle with soap and water, and mop.

2. **Put on rubber gloves.** If you do not have rubber (or disposable) gloves, you will need to wash your hands well after cleaning.

3. **Use supplies you can throw away.** Use soapy cleaners or products made to remove lead dust.

4. **Don’t use a vacuum unless it is a HEPA vacuum.** A regular vacuum will spread lead dust into the air. Some health departments have HEPA vacuums available to borrow.

STEP TWO: Remove Paint Chips

2. **Remove paint chips.** Window areas and porches often have peeling paint and lead dust. Pick up the paint chips you can see and throw them away in a plastic bag.

STEP THREE: Wet & Wipe Surfaces

3. **Always spray window sills with soap and water and wet-mop floors.** Do not use a broom to sweep lead dust. Throw away wipes after cleaning each area.

STEP FOUR: Mop

4. **Mop** with a disposable mop head or paper towel to wipe away suds.

STEP FIVE: Clean Often

5. **Change towels often** until no paint chips, dust or dirt can be seen. Put garbage in a plastic bag, and seal with tape or a knot. The sealed bag can be disposed of with normal trash for pickup.

6. **Repeat these steps weekly,** or when dirt and dust appear on floors, porches, window wells, window sills, stairs or children’s play areas.

Contact MICLPP at 517-335-8350 or the Healthy Homes Section 866-691-5323