Knocking it Down, With Care: Strategies to Reduce Lead Hazards in Abandoned Property Demolitions
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Overview

• Lead hazards
• LockUp Lead
• Demonstration Project
• Impact of the demonstration project
• Lead Safe Louisville
• Lead Hazards in Louisville
• Vacancy and abandonment in Louisville
• Lessons to share
Lead Hazards – In general

- Lead paint was banned in the US in 1978.
- Old lead-based paint is the most significant source of lead exposure in the US.
LockUp Lead – How it works

- Neutralizes toxic lead compounds upon contact.
- Proven by USEPA to convert lead compounds on a molecular level to be 99.5% less bio accessible.
- 100% Non-toxic
- Companion instant field lead tester – turns red on contact.
LockUp Lead Demonstration Project

- Mayor’s Summer Workers trained to apply LockUp Lead (VIDEO)
- Treated 10 homes slated to be demolished & a community garden over several weeks, summer 2015.
- Cost roughly $650 per house treated.
- Complete lead abatement could cost roughly $10,000 to $40,000 per house & $50 per square foot of soil excavated and replaced.
Impact of Demonstration Project

Safety Tips for a Pending Demolition

You are receiving this letter because you live near a structure that Louisville Metro Government will be demolishing in the near future. Please take a moment to review the information and safety tips provided below and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Most homes built before 1978 MAY have Lead Based Paint on the interior, exterior or even in the soil. When a property is being demolished in your neighborhood please follow these safety precautions to control possible lead dust contamination.

1. Keep windows shut during demolition.
2. Do not allow children to play on the demolition site.
3. Wipe off shoes before entering your home.
4. Wash hands, children’s bottles, pacifiers, toys any other items played with outside.
5. Wash your hands after leaving home and prior to reaching your next destination.
Lead Safe Louisville – Program Overview

The purpose of the Lead-Safe Louisville Program is to eliminate lead hazards that exist in both owner-occupied and rental units in the Metro Louisville area.

• Income based
• Must have a child under 6 living in or consistently visiting home
• Over 750 homes made lead-safe since 2002
• $18,000 on average spent per home
Lead Hazards – In Louisville

- 66% of housing units built prior to 1980
- 2015 – 3,682 children under 6 tested positive for lead
- Lead poisoned children identified throughout Metro but concentrated in older neighborhoods across the income spectrum (Map)
Abandoned Property in Louisville, KY

- VAP Ratio – number of abandoned properties relative to the number of parcels in a given area.
- VAP Ratio Metro-wide is approximately 3%.
- Abandonment problem is **concentrated** – some neighborhoods have VAP ratios over 20%.
Lessons to Share

- Health in all policies approach
- Look for partnerships – formalize them to make them last
- Share your successes/programs broadly
Questions?

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