



Environmental Service Pros Issues Advisory on DIY Lead Paint Test Kits in Older Nashville Homes

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Environmental Service Pros has issued a public advisory urging homeowners with properties built before 1978 to reconsider the use of store-bought lead paint test kits ahead of the spring and summer renovation season. The Nashville-based environmental hazard testing company warns that consumer kits frequently fail to detect trace levels of lead that laboratory-based methods identify, leaving families and contractors with a false sense of safety before they begin work on painted surfaces.

Lead paint was commonly applied in residential construction until it was banned for home use in 1978. According to the company, the risks of DIY lead paint testing in older homes stem largely from the limited sensitivity of consumer kits, which may return negative results even when lead is present in older layers of paint. When painted surfaces are sanded, scraped, or removed without confirming lead content, contaminated dust can become airborne and spread through HVAC systems to other rooms in the home.

Exposure to lead dust has been linked to high blood pressure, kidney damage, and developmental problems in young children. For this reason, the advisory recommends professional assessment before any renovation project, before buying or selling a pre-1978 home, in households with young children or expecting parents,

and after the discovery of deteriorating paint.

"Many homeowners assume a negative reading from a hardware-store kit means their home is clear, but those kits were never designed to catch the trace levels that matter most," said Michael McDonnell, representative for Environmental Service Pros. "When someone starts sanding old trim based on that assumption, lead dust can travel through the ductwork and settle in rooms far from the project. The point of this advisory is to encourage families to confirm what is in their paint before they disturb it."

The company offers lead paint testing Nashville TN residents can rely on through methods that include X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) analysis, paint chip and dust wipe sampling, and a comprehensive property assessment. These approaches are intended to deliver results that meet local, state, and federal safety standards, a level of documentation that consumer kits cannot provide.

"Renovation season is when we see the most activity in older neighborhoods, and that is also when the greatest exposure risk occurs," McDonnell added. "Testing by a certified professional gives contractors and homeowners the information they need before the first surface is touched."

Environmental Service Pros performs testing across older Nashville-area homes as part of its broader environmental hazard work, serving communities that include Belle Meade, Brentwood, Franklin, Hendersonville, Mount Juliet, Murfreesboro, Nolensville, Smyrna, Spring Hill, and Thompsons Station.

Environmental Service Pros is a family-owned, locally operated company in Nashville, Tennessee, specializing in lead and asbestos testing and removal, mold testing, crawl space encapsulation, radon mitigation, air duct cleaning, biohazard cleanup, drug lab cleanup, and hoarding cleanup. The company provides services for homes and businesses with an emphasis on safe, compliant handling of hazardous materials. Homeowners and contractors planning renovations in older properties are encouraged to schedule professional testing before disturbing any painted surfaces.

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For more information about Environmental Service Pros, contact the company here: Environmental Service Pros Michael McDonnell (615) 813-6051 info@enviroprosnashville.com 3728 Keystone Ave, Nashville, TN 37211

Environmental Service Pros

Environmental Service Pros, a family-owned local company in Nashville, specializes in mold testing and asbestos

removal. Our licensed team offers 24/7 emergency service with safe, precise, and reliable solutions for healthier indoor spaces.

Website: <https://enviroprosnashville.com/>

Email: info@enviroprosnashville.com

Phone: (615) 813-6051

