

# EPA Proposed Rule to reduce dust clearance levels after lead removal activities

*Intended to protect children from harmful lead exposure effects*

Sections 402 and 403 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) set hazard standards and clearance levels for lead in paint, dust, and soil. In June 2020, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed a rule to lower current clearance levels:

- Floor dust would lower from 40 micrograms of lead per square foot ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ ) to  $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$
- Windowsill dust would lower from  $250 \mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$  to  $100 \mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$

The ultimate goal of the proposed standard is to protect young children from lead exposure. These changes align with the January 6, 2020 dust-lead standards for homes built pre-1978 and childcare facilities. Changes to these standards may affect older buildings at DoD facilities, childcare facilities, and other places children congregate.



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If you would like more information on the proposed rule or EPA hazard standards and clearance levels for lead in paint, dust and soil, please go to the EPA website at: <https://www.epa.gov/lead/hazard-standards-and-clearance-levels-lead-paint-dust-and-soil-tsca-sections-402-and-403>.

For additional information on the SMCX's services, please visit the SMCX-hosted website at: <https://www.smcx.org/>.