

EPA invites comments on the extent to which an aging population has unique needs with respect to housing, transportation, health care, recreation, and other quality of life issues, and how these needs may affect the environment. Issues which may be considered include:

What can city, county and regional planners do to meet the needs of today's older adults and prepare for the anticipated increase in the number of retirees and at the same time enhance preservation of natural resources for recreation, wildlife, water, air and land quality?

Can you identify unique resource needs and utilization patterns of older adults that may generate novel ecological pressures?

What steps can individual baby boomers and older adults take to not only reduce potential hazards to the environment but also preserve and enhance the quality of the environment for themselves and future generations?

III. Encouraging Older Adults To Volunteer To Reduce Environmental Hazards

Opportunities for Older Persons To Enhance the Environment and Their Health

The National Agenda will not only identify strategies to protect the quality of life for older persons from environmental hazards, but also suggest ways to engage the nation's older persons in programs and strategies designed to enhance the environment for all generations.

Many older Americans contribute their time, energy and expertise to protect their environment and educate their communities about environmental hazards to citizens and threats to natural resources. The EPA intends to encourage further involvement and expand opportunities for older persons to volunteer in programs designed to lessen environmental hazards. Programs or activities that are of interest include activities that increase awareness of environmental hazards, and preserve the quality of the environment for today and tomorrow's citizens. The EPA welcomes comments on encouraging older adults to volunteer to reduce environmental hazards in their communities. Among the questions to which the EPA invites comments are the following:

Which volunteer programs that address environmental hazards in your community warrant examination for possible replication in other communities?

What incentives are needed to encourage older persons to volunteer their time and ideas to protect the environment, reduce environmental hazards and enhance the health of and the environment for people of all ages?

In an effort to raise awareness of environmental factors important to all citizens, how can older persons serve as models of good practice and mentors for younger generations about environmental hazards found in the community?

In your community or state, what intergenerational environmental projects have been successful in improving the health of children or older persons?

What potential barriers exist to volunteering in your community to reduce environmental hazards?

Public comments will be accepted until Tuesday, September 30, 2003.

(1) To submit written comments, please send them by mail or hand deliver to: EPA's Aging Initiative, Mail Code 1107A, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 2512 Ariel Rios North, Washington, DC 20460, or

(2) Fax comments to: National Agenda for the Environment and the Aging (202) 564-2733, or

(3) E-mail comments to: aging.info@epa.gov.

Dated: May 13, 2003.

Joanne Rodman,
Acting Director, Office of Children's Health Protection.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPT-2002-0079; FRL-7306-2]

Lead-Based Paint Activities in Target Housing and Child-Occupied Facilities, State of Mississippi Authorization of Lead-Based Paint Activities Program; Final Approval

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On January 21, 2003, the State of Mississippi submitted a self-certification letter stating that Mississippi's Lead-Based Paint Training and Certification Program meets the requirements for approval of a State program under section 404 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and that Mississippi has the legal authority and ability to implement the appropriate elements to run the program. The State program will administer and enforce

training and certification requirements, training program accreditation requirements, and work practice standards for lead-based paint activities in target housing and child-occupied facilities under section 402 of TSCA. Recent changes to the State's audit privilege and penalty mitigation statutes, which previously impaired the State's ability to fully administer and enforce the Lead-Based Paint Program, have resulted in the State program now providing adequate enforcement. This notice announces the authorization of the State of Mississippi's Lead-Based Program.

DATES: Lead-based paint activities program authorization was granted to the State of Mississippi effective on January 21, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Keith Bates, Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch; Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division; Environmental Protection Agency; Region IV, Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center, 61 Forsyth St., SW., Atlanta, GA 30303; telephone number: (404) 562-8992; e-mail address: bates.keith@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This notice is directed to the public in general. This notice may, however, be of interest to firms and individuals engaged in lead-based paint activities in Mississippi. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by the notice. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this notice to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Get Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?

1. *Docket.* EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket identification (ID) number OPPT-2002-0079. The official public docket consists of the documents specifically referenced in this action, any public comments received, and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the EPA Docket Center, Rm. B102-Reading