

# City of Racine Public Health Department

# **HEPA Vacuums**

### **Lead Poisoning Prevention**

Lead is a metal that is found in the environment. It was used in paint until 1978. **Most children get lead poisoning from homes built before 1978**.

The City of Racine Public Health Department has HEPA vacuums available for rent through the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. These vacuums are important tools for reducing lead dust in homes.

#### **About HEPA Vacuums:**

- HEPA (High-Efficiency Particulate Air) vacuums are industrial vacuums that have one or more special filters.
- HEPA filters trap very small particulates that can pass through the filters of regular vacuum cleaners.
- Lead can break down into tiny particles that can go through regular filters, but are trapped by HEPA filters.
- HEPA vacuums can clean up dust and chips of lead paint before they can be breathed in or swallowed by children.

# **About the HEPA Vacuum Rental Program:**

- The rental period is one week (7 days).
- The rental period may be extended <u>only</u> with approval from the Public Health Department.
- The HEPA vacuums come with all parts needed for cleaning.
- Call 262-636-9203 to check for availability.



Lead Poisoning is Preventable