The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is issuing the second edition of its Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing (the “HUD Guidelines”), with many updates and enhancements throughout 17 technically detailed chapters. Its glossary and 24 appendices also contain a wide range of valuable information, resources and references. This landmark document is designed to help property owners, government agencies, lenders and appraisers, architects, real estate agents and brokers, child care centers, contractors, and many other professionals to reduce childhood exposure to lead without unnecessarily increasing the cost of renovation. The first edition was issued in 1995.

The Guidelines reflect the collective expertise from more than two dozen experts in the federal government and other organizations. Chapters cover how to identify lead-based paint and related hazards in pre-1978 housing, how to control these hazards safely and efficiently, and much more. This edition of the Guidelines is applicable to lead hazard evaluation and control in all pre-1978 federally associated housing. In addition, the Guidelines are cited by many state regulations, and used by many public and private housing owners and managers as the standard of care even when not required by federal or state regulation. Highlights include discussions and insights into:

- Regulations and policies issued by HUD, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and the National Park Service (NPS);
- CDC’s recently issued recommendations on elevated blood levels in young children; and
- Knowledge gained from field and laboratory experience, and technological advances.

Regulations generally specify minimum requirements for: what must be done and when; training and, if applicable, certification for those conducting the work; and certain basic standards for how work must be done. The updated Guidelines provide more detailed information than regulations do on how activities related to lead-based paint should be carried out and why certain measures are recommended.

The second edition of the Guidelines is available for viewing and downloading at: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes/lbp/hudguidelines. You will also find links to additional information and materials at this website.