

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Adirondack Bank Building, 5th Floor, 185 Genesee St., Utica, NY 13501

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR.
ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DANIEL W. GILMORE, PH.D.
DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
SUPERVISOR-IN-CHARGE

ADMINISTRATION

Phone: (315) 798-6400 ☎ Fax: (315) 266-6138

NEWS RELEASE

March 22, 2010
For Immediate Release

Contact: Cathe Bullwinkle
798-5275

Partnership Initiative Reduces Lead, Saves Energy *"Window Replacement Classes Precede New EPA Regs"*

A public-private 'green partnership' between the county's *Lead Primary Prevention Pilot Program* and Gro-West, Inc., will again be offering a series of instructional classes on window replacement prior to new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations mandating lead safe work practices which go into effect on April 22, 2010.

The program, initiated last year by County Executive Anthony J. Picente, Jr., targets properties in Cornhill, West Utica and parts of East Utica that are 'at risk' for lead poisoning and allows the homeowners to replace old lead-base painted, single paned windows with new energy efficient replacement windows purchased at cost and using lead safe work practices.

The 3-hour classes provide 'hands on' training in the proper measurement and ordering of replacement windows, safe removal of old windows using 'lead safe' practices and appropriate clean-up to remove lead hazards. Participants will also be allowed the free use of a HEPA vacuum and a free lead test to insure safe lead levels. Upon completion of the training, participants can purchase new energy efficient replacement windows for their home 'at cost' through Gro-West, Inc. The classes will be held at Gro-West, Inc., 1124 State Street in Utica on the following dates and times:

- Tuesday, March 23rd from 6:00 – 9:00 PM
- Saturday, March 27th from 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon
- Tuesday, March 30th from 6:00 – 9:00 PM
- Saturday, April 10th from 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon
- Tuesday, April 13th from 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Class size is limited and **pre-registration is required** by calling the Oneida County Lead Primary Prevention Program at 266-6147. **Interpretation in multiple languages may be arranged.**

"This strategic 'green partnership' is intended to reduce the environmental hazards of lead-based paints in our homes while reducing energy costs up to 25% and saving HEAP dollars. Additionally, the program supports the state's economy because the Energy Star replacement windows being offered are manufactured in New York State," Picente said at the time he announced the program.

As much as 60-70% of lead-laden dust found in homes built before 1978 can be attributed to single pane windows that create friction and grind down lead-based painted surfaces when opened and closed. As little lead dust as it would take to fill a sugar packet can contaminate an entire house when the window is open or a fan is placed in the window. Children who ingest or inhale the dust can then be lead poisoned.

For more information on lead abatement or the new EPA regulations going into effect on April 22, 2010 visit our web site at ocgov.net or contact the Lead Primary Prevention Program at 266-6147.

###