



36

### Request for City Council Committee Action From the Finance Department

Date: April 7, 2003  
To: Ways and Means Committee  
Referral to: None

**Subject**      **Utility Billing Insert**

**Recommendation**

The Finance Department recommends the approval of the Children's Environmental Health, Lead Center Program request to place an insert with the May 2003 Utility Bills. The purpose of the insert is to inform and educate people about the Lead Center Program.

**Previous Directives**

(any past Council actions or directions to staff)

Prepared or Submitted by : Ramon Morales, Utilities Billing Office Manager,  
Phone #673-2404

Approved by: Patrick Born, City Finance Officer *Patrick Born*

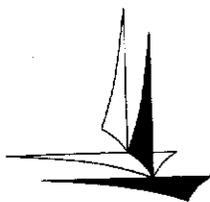
John Moir, City Coordinator *John Moir*

**Presenters in Committee (Consent Item)**

<p><b>Financial Impact</b> (Check those that apply)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget. (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Action requires use of contingency or reserves</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other financial impact (Explain):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator</p>
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<p><b>Community Impact</b> (use any categories that apply)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Notification</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> City Goals</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Plan</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Zoning Code</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable</p>
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**Background/Supporting Information Attached**



**Minneapolis**  
City of Lakes

**Operations &  
Regulatory Services**  
John Bergquist  
Assistant City Coordinator

**Environmental Services**  
250 South 4th Street - Room 414  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Office 612 673-5885  
Fax 612 673-2635  
TTY 612 673-2157

December 12, 2002

Marcia Burks-Belfrey  
Finance Department  
Utility Billing Office  
250 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street Room 230  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear Ms. Belfrey:

This past October, a flyer in reference to our Minneapolis Neighborhood Lead Center Program was inserted into the City's utilities bill and sent to over 97,000 residences. As a result of this effort, the participating lead centers have seen an increase in HEPA vacuum rentals and customer traffic at a majority of the participating locations.

Once again, I am requesting that Children's Environmental Health be granted the right to insert a flyer to further promote the Minneapolis Neighborhood Lead Center Program into the City's utilities bill.

To date, childhood lead poisoning remains the number one environmental health threat to children. By establishing greater public awareness of lead and lead poisoning in our community, the public will be able to utilize the resources available to them and help combat this serious environmental issue. Let's make Lead Safe Minneapolis a Reality!

If you have any questions or concerns regarding any of this information, please feel free to contact me at (612) 673-2278 or (612) 290-1821. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Robert Becker  
Environmental Health Specialist  
Minneapolis Environmental Services – Children's Environmental Health



**Do you live in a building  
built *prior to 1978*?  
It may contain lead-based paint.**

Lead-based paint and lead dust can cause lead poisoning in children under age six. To safely clean up lead dust, proper equipment must be used.

The City of Minneapolis Children's Environmental Health Program and Atrix International Inc. have a public outreach and education program called **LEAD CENTERS**. This program assists homeowners, tenants and rental property owners in safely removing lead-based paint chips and dust.

**LEAD CENTERS**

provide these services at little or no cost

- HEPA vacuums for public rental
- free soil testing kits
- bi-lingual information on preventing childhood lead poisoning and lead safe work practices

The reverse side lists locations of Minneapolis lead centers.

The following hardware stores or community organizations offer **free or low-cost** use of lightweight HEPA vacuums to clean up lead-based paint chips or tiny dust particles from floors, window sills, window wells and carpets of homes.

- A to Z Rental Center**  
3550 Cedar Ave S - (612) 729-2320
- Bayers Do It Best Hardware**  
4312 Upton Ave S - (612) 926-1605
- Bryant Hardware**  
818 W 36<sup>th</sup> St - (612) 823-4748
- Camden Hardware Hank**  
4805 Lyndale Ave N - (612) 529-1579
- Diamond Lake Ace Hardware**  
5425 Nicollet Ave S - (612) 824-8813
- Harrison Neighborhood Association**  
503 Irving Ave N - (612) 374-4849
- Hawthorne Area Community Council**  
2944 Emerson Ave N - (612) 529-6033
- Hi-Lake True Value Hardware**  
2106 E Lake St - (612) 722-6627
- Nokomis Hardware**  
5155-34<sup>th</sup> Ave S - (612) 722-4322
- Welna Ace Hardware**  
2441 Bloomington Ave S - (612) 729-3526
- Welna Ace Hardware II**  
2201 Franklin Ave E - (612) 332-4393

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- Sustainable Resource Center**  
1916-2nd Ave S - (612) 870-4255
- The Reuse Center**  
2216 E Lake St - (612) 724-2608



City of Minneapolis - Children's Environmental Health  
250 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street Room 414 • Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 673-3535