



LEWIS & CLARK CITY-COUNTY Health Department

306 East Main
East Helena, MT 59635
PH: 406.457.8583
Fax: 406.457.8573

East Helena Lead Education and Abatement Program

Vacuum Loan Program

The East Helena Lead Education and Abatement Program (LEAP) purchased 2 **High-Efficiency Particulate Air** or **HEPA** vacuum cleaners for residents of East Helena and surrounding areas to rent for home improvement and cleaning projects.

To qualify as “HEPA” by US government standards, an air filter must remove 99.97% of all particles greater than 0.3 microns from the air that passes through it. A filter that is qualified as HEPA is also subject to interior classifications.

If vacuum cleaners do have a HEPA filter; they can be beneficial for asthma and allergy sufferers as the HEPA filter traps the fine particles (such as pollen and dust mite feces) which trigger allergy and asthma symptoms.

Vacuum cleaners with HEPA filters also trap lead particles, which reduces the exposure potential for young children. Vacuuming bare floors and carpets frequently, with a HEPA vacuum, will help you provide your child with a lead safe environment.

LEAP purchased 1 industrial—quality shop vacuum (**Pullman-Holt**) for interior projects, which could include, but is not limited to: remodeling, painting, cleaning out furnace duct work, etc.

The second vacuum cleaner is a commercial—quality vacuum (**Nilfisk Euroclean**) for projects such as spring and fall cleaning. East Helena area residents can rent either vacuum at no charge.



The loan program does require residents to come into the LEAP office and receive a hands on training. Residents are also required to bring in a brief description or work plan of what kind of project they will be using the vacuums for. Let us help you do your cleaning projects with our high quality HEPA vacuums.

A contract will be signed by both LEAP staff and the renters after a thorough inspection is completed on the vacuum. Residents are responsible for any damages to the vacuums that occur during the proposed project.

Call Debb or Jan anytime at 457-8583 or drop by the LEAP office, at East Helena City Hall, with questions or concerns.

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