

Train the Trainers: Fact Sheet

Colorado

September 2008

1. How many children, under the age of 18, in Colorado have asthma?

95,607 children, under the age of 18, have asthma. This age group numbers 1,030,248 which means 9.3 % of children, in Colorado, are asthmatic.

(American Lung Association State of the Air: 2008; www.lungusa.org)

2. What are the state licensing regulations on the application of pesticides in or near the child care facility?

10-101

(a) The use of poisonous compounds to control weeds, rodents, insects, and other pests shall be implemented only after other means have been used for control, such as the elimination of harborages, cleaning food waste, and sealing of ports of entry. These compounds shall be used according to labeled instructions.

(b) All food, food utensils, and equipment, bedding, toys, sleeping mats and other equipment, materials and items that will come into contact with food or children shall be protected during the time pesticide application is conducted. Pesticides shall be applied in a manner as to prevent skin contact and other exposure to children or staff. Application of pesticides shall not be conducted when children are present.

(c) Only approved, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency registered insecticides, rodenticides, and herbicides may be used. Application must strictly follow all label instructions and must be authorized by the director. Rodenticides shall be dispensed in tamper proof boxes, shall have a distinctive color so as not to be mistaken for food, and shall be in cake or pellet form.

(d) Restricted pesticides shall be applied only by a certified pest control applicator or under the direct supervision of a certified pest control applicator.

3. Is there a state program working on promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Colorado?

No.

4. What are the state licensing regulations on smoking on or near a child care property?

Volume of Child Care Facility Licensing (12 CCR 2509-8)

7.702.91 J. Smoking is prohibited during business hours in all areas where child care is provided and when transporting children.

5. What are the state regulations on using candles, air fresheners, and perfumes within the child care program?

There are no regulations.

*All regulations noted in this document are state regulations. Some cities and/or counties in Colorado may have additional regulations. Check with city or county governments to find out if there are additional standards.

6. What are the regulations on types of cleaners allowed/disallowed in child care programs?

No regulations currently exist.

7. Do child care centers have to use State licensing regulations for sanitizing and disinfecting?

Yes. Bleach-to-water ratios are below. Child care facilities may also use EPA approved sanitizers and disinfectants.

6-404

(a) Sanitizers:

- 1) Shall be mixed and used according to the label instructions, including concentration and contact time,
- 2) If used as a sanitizer, household bleach, containing 5.25% sodium hypochlorite shall be mixed at one (1) tablespoon per gallon of water. Household bleach containing 6.00% sodium hypochlorite, shall be mixed at two and a half (2 1/2) teaspoons per gallon of water. Both solutions shall be between 50 - 200 ppm chlorine and shall have a contact time of at least one minute, and
- 3) Shall be formulated so as not to include nor require a final rinse with potable water.

(b) Disinfectants:

- 1) Must be mixed and used according to the manufacturer's label and instructions, including concentration and contact time,
- 2) If used as a disinfectant, household bleach, containing 5.25% sodium hypochlorite, shall be mixed at one-quarter () cup per gallon of water. Household bleach containing 6.00% sodium hypochlorite, shall be mixed at three and a quarter (3 ¼) tablespoons per gallon of water. Both solutions shall have a contact time of at least one minute, and
- (c) Household bleach used to mix sanitizers and disinfectants shall be free of compounds used to enhance the scent or odor of the product.

8. Are child care facilities tested for lead - in paint and water - before receiving a state child care license?

No, however the following regulation applies to water.

4-101 An adequate supply of potable water for the needs of the child care facility shall be provided in the building housing the establishment and shall be from a source constructed and operated in compliance with the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations and regulations adopted pursuant to Section 25-1.5-203, C.R.S., 5C.C.R. 1003-1

9. Are lead testing kits available at state Public Health Departments, if so, are they free?

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The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment does not supply these tests. You may purchase lead testing kits at home improvement stores. The department does not recommend using the kits for testing for lead in toys, as the tests are not reliable for this purpose. Check with your local public health department to see if additional resources are available.

10. Are there regulations regarding using mercury-containing thermometers in child care centers?

No.

11. Have any of the chemicals in toxic flame retardants (PBDEs) been banned?

No.

12. Have phthalates or BPA been banned, or is the state crafting legislation about banning these toxins?

No.

13. Are centers required to use non-toxic art supplies as approved by ACMI...or another institute?

No. However, the following regulations apply to art materials.

10-301 Art and science materials shall be used in a way so as not to constitute a hazard to the children or staff. Children using potentially toxic materials shall be directly supervised by staff. (For example, shaving cream can be hazardous to asthmatic children.)

10-302 The use of concentrated or strong acids and bases; carcinogenic materials; toxic organic solvents; materials that produce toxic dusts, and materials with heavy metals such as lead, mercury, or cadmium shall be prohibited. Nontoxic, water-based materials should be used whenever possible.

14. Are the child care centers asked to recycle by licensing entities – is recycling common?

Centers may recycle on a voluntary basis. Recycling is common in Colorado.

15. Is there a state resource/agency that provides free blood-lead-level tests?

You may access a list of low-cost clinics <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/ehs/Clinicslowcost.pdf> at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's web site. Check with your local health department to determine if additional resources are available.

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16. What regulations exist for use of chromated copper arsenate (CCA) pressure-treated wood?

Regulations do not specifically mention chromate copper arsenate, however note text below.

2-101

(b) Outdoor play equipment shall not be coated or treated with, nor shall it contain, toxic materials in hazardous amounts that are accessible to children.