

RECOMMENDATIONS: HEALTHY HOUSING

Ensure that residents have access to safe, lead-free, healthy, energy-efficient housing options.



Southeast Michigan Regional Energy Office's Better Buildings Program.

Courtesy: Better Buildings Program, Regional Energy Office

IMPLEMENT A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO HOUSING

- Continue to increase interagency and public/private coordination for rehabilitating housing (e.g., Green and Healthy Homes Initiative's efforts to coordinate lead abatement, weatherization, minor home repair, indoor air quality)
- Reconfigure the Community Development Block Grant system to be more effective and distribute resources directly and efficiently into the community
- Adopt a comprehensive home assessment for rehabilitating affordable housing such as the one recommended by the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative

INCREASE RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- Train City inspectors on current energy standards: 2009 IECC energy code (residential) or ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2007 with Amendments (commercial)
- Create incentives for energy-efficient, healthy housing development (e.g., a voluntary Green and Healthy label)
- Require an energy audit or disclosure of energy bills upon lease signing or purchase agreement so that renters and buyers have full energy information

IMPROVE RESIDENTIAL INDOOR AIR QUALITY

- Use citizen contact opportunities to educate around personal practices that impact indoor air quality such as smoking, use of air fresheners, use of certain cleaning products and pesticides, installation/use of products that off-gas and/or contain VOCs
- Include in affordable home programs elimination of conditions that cause mold

REDUCE LEAD PAINT HAZARDS

- Enforce the 2010 Detroit Lead Ordinance in the Property Maintenance Code to protect children from lead paint exposure in rental properties
- Work with the County Prosecutor to enforce 2004 State Lead Abatement Act
- Restore funding for Elevated Blood Lead Level (EBLL) investigations to determine and eliminate the source of lead poisoning; coordinate investigations with enforcement of Detroit Lead Ordinance
- Vigorously pursue federal and state funding for lead abatement in houses where children reside