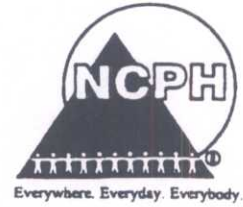




NEW HANOVER COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
2029 SOUTH 17TH STREET
WILMINGTON, NC 28401-4946
TELEPHONE (910) 343-6667, FAX (910) 772-7810



DAVID E. RICE, M.P.H., M.A.
Health Director

LYNDA F. SMITH, M.P.A.
Assistant Health Director

February 19, 1998

Mr. Wayne Jones
Regional Environmental Health Specialist
229 N. Country Club Dr.
Kenansville, NC 28349

RE: Request to Initiate an Environmental Survey/Lead Investigation

Dear Wayne,

During the child care center/lead educational meeting which I attended December 3, 1998, in Bladen County, you said a request from the Division of Child Development is needed before a lead investigation is to be conducted by local health departments. In the past, we have routinely included the lead investigation as part of the environmental survey when visiting a proposed child care center in an existing building. The request to do this survey frequently comes from the owner of the building who may be interested in opening a child care center. Could you and the other Regional Specialists develop some guidelines so this request can be done uniformly across the state? Ideally, it should be a written request from the Child Day Care Consultant to initiate an environmental survey. My main interest is to standardize this process and to work with the Division of Child Development as a team.

Thanks for your attention to this matter.

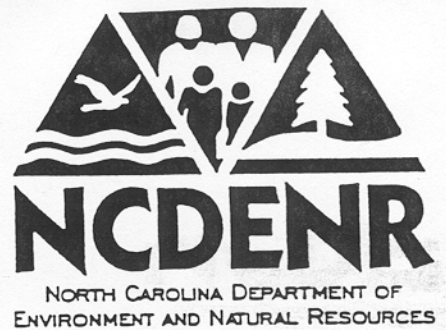
Sincerely,

James G. Roosen
Environmental Health Program Specialist

"Your Health - Our Priority"

State of North Carolina
Department of Environment
and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Health

James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor
Wayne McDevitt, Secretary
Linda C. Sewall, Director



April 17, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: James Roosen, R.S.
New Hanover County Health Department

THROUGH: Ed Norman, Branch Head
Children's Environmental Health Branch

FROM: Wayne Jones, R.S.
Regional Environmental Health Specialist

SUBJECT: Investigating Proposed Child Care Centers For Lead Poisoning Hazards

This response is in regards to your February 19, 1998 letter concerning lead poisoning hazards and environmental health visits to proposed child care facilities. Currently, requests for environmental health services typically come from the proposed center's operator of the building owner and may be sanitation or lead specific. In many situations the operator or building owner is not aware of lead poisoning hazard issues until notified by the local environmental health specialist. In some cases the building owners have made such requests in order to obtain a "free" lead inspection when they have no intention of opening a child care center.

Given the inconsistent manner in which the initial request for environmental health services are made, the Children's Environmental Health Branch is developing a form which must be completed by the Division of Child Development child care consultant. This written request, to the local environmental health office, will be required prior to an environmental health specialist visiting a proposed center. When an individual contacts you concerning a proposed child care facility, simply have them contact the child care consultant assigned to their area to submit a written request. This procedure will assure the Division of Child Development's involvement in the referral of proposed facilities to assure a more consistent statewide policy.

Please contact me at (910) 296-2046 with any questions or comments you have regarding this matter.