

## Best Practices for Transitioning to Safer Chemicals

### Toxic Paint Removers: Safer Choices Campaign

2014 Occupational Health Internship Program

August 15, 2014

Chemical Stripper Type	Hazard	Precautions
<p><b>Preferred:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benzyl alcohol</li> <li>• Soy-based</li> <li>• Dibasic esters</li> </ul>	<p>Eye, nose, throat, &amp; lung Irritation</p> <p>Skin irritation</p>	<p>Chemical goggles</p> <p>Gloves</p> <p><i>Asthmatics should not use these products</i></p>
<p><b>Use with Caution:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sodium hydroxide</li> <li>• Magnesium hydroxide</li> <li>• Calcium hydroxide</li> </ul>	<p>Eye injuries</p> <p>Chemical burns</p>	<p>Chemical goggles and face shield</p> <p>Apron</p> <p>Gloves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caustic-resistant</li> </ul>
<p><b>Extreme Caution:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N-Methyl pyrrolidone (NMP)*</li> </ul>	<p>Reproductive harm</p>	<p>Chemical goggles</p> <p>Gloves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethylene-vinyl alcohol laminate</li> </ul> <p>Respirator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organic vapor cartridge</li> </ul>
<p><b>Not recommended:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methylene chloride*</li> <li>• Toluene*</li> <li>• Methanol*</li> </ul>	<p>Neurological effects</p> <p>Heart attacks</p> <p>Death</p>	<p>Chemical Goggles</p> <p>Gloves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethylene-vinyl alcohol laminate</li> </ul> <p>Ventilation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mechanical</li> </ul> <p>Respirator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplied-air if used indoors</li> </ul>

CDPH Safer Choices Poster, page 5, Toxic Paint Removers: Safer Choices Campaign Final Report

**Full study available:**

**<http://aoec.org/ohip/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Final-Report-San-Francisco.-Jeremy-Sosman-Erika-Meza.pdf>**