

Lead Prevention Quarterly Newsletter

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Web sites to check out:

Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control
<http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/index.cfm>

Medline Plus: Lead Poisoning
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/leadpoisoning.html>

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Lead-Based Paint Removal and Your Taxes

Per the IRS, you can include in medical expenses the cost of removing lead-based paints from surfaces in your home to prevent a child who has or has had lead poisoning from eating the paint. These surfaces must be in poor repair (peeling and cracking) or within the child's reach. The cost of repainting the scraped area is not a medical expense.

For more information, please visit www.irs.gov publication 502 "Medical and Dental Expenses".

NASCAR Plans to Switch to Unleaded Fuel in '08

NASCAR will use unleaded fuel for its racecars and trucks beginning in 2008, making the switch from the high-octane leaded fuel that it has used for decades.

Gary Nelson, NASCAR's vice president for research and development, said yesterday that the series had been testing a new fuel since the fall and that early results had been promising. The fuel, Sunoco 260 GTX, will be used in NASCAR's three main racing series - Nextel Cup, Busch, and Craftsman Truck. Nelson said it was already being used in the Grand American road racing series.

"Sunoco came up with a formula that really seems to do the job," Nelson said in a telephone interview. "It does a very good job inside the engine," he said, adding that "we've got more testing to do and more work to do."

NASCAR is exempt from the 1970 Clean Air Act, which required the transition to unleaded fuel for all automobiles. But the series has worked to find an unleaded substitute for years.

Nelson had said there were problems finding a fuel that provided the same lubrication as lead. The new fuel alleviates that problem without using MTBE, an additive that had been considered in the past but was rejected because it was barred in some states as a health hazard.

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For more information, please go to the NY Times article by VIV BERNSTEIN
NASCAR plans to switch to unleaded fuel in '08.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/01/20/sports/othersports/20nascar.html>