

WHAT IS THE H.O.M.E. PROGRAM?

Boone County's H.O.M.E. Program stands for Home Owner Maintenance Education. This program consists of a series of seminars on topics that relate to maintaining and improving your home environment.

The H.O.M.E. Seminars teach vital information on topics to empower residents to care for and improve their home in a way that protects their investment and enhances its sustainability. Seven of these seminars cover the principle Healthy Homes topic areas.

Additional seminars cover topics that relate to associated items around the home, such as septic system maintenance, backyard composting, acreage and forestry management, and recycling.

The H.O.M.E. program is conducted through the Boone County Health and Sanitation Department in cooperation with several key partners that assist in delivering the program. These partners include:

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension



Retired Senior Volunteer Program of
Greene and Boone Counties.

TOP 10 REASONS TO MAKE YOUR HOME A HEALTHY HOME:

- 1) Protect your health / feel better.
- 2) Protect your children's health.
- 3) Improve your indoor air environment.
- 4) Reduce asthma / allergy episodes.
- 5) Lower medical bills .
- 6) Make your home safer.
- 7) Save money on maintenance and repairs.
- 8) Reduce costs for cleaners, pesticides and chemicals overused in the home.
- 9) Learn more about Healthy Homes.
- 10) Protect your home investment.



For additional information, call the
Boone County Health and Sanitation
Department at 515-433-0506.

"PROTECTING YOUR HEALTH
BY IMPROVING YOUR HOME
LIVING ENVIRONMENT"

THE HOME OWNER MAINTENANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM



Boone County
Health & Sanitation Department
201 State Street, Room 200
Boone, Iowa 50036

Tel: 515-433-0506

WHAT IS A HEALTHY HOME?

A Healthy Home is a home that is designed, constructed, maintained or reha-



Is your home a healthy home?

bilitated in a manner that supports the health of its residents.

A growing body of evidence links housing conditions to health outcomes such as

asthma, lead poisoning, lung cancer and unintentional injuries.

The Seven Principles of Healthy Homes:

Keep your home:

- Dry
- Clean
- Pest-Free
- Ventilated
- Safe
- Contaminant-Free
- Maintained

Addressing deficiencies in these areas will not only protect our home but improve your health and save on health care expenses.

IS MY HOME A HEALTHY HOME?

BEGIN WITH PEOPLE

A key indicator in determining the status of your home's health is to look at the health of its residents. Chronic health issues such as asthma, allergies and other diseases such as lung cancer can often be traced back to the indoor air environment of a dwelling. Children are especially susceptible to certain indoor air problems and the rate of childhood asthma and allergies continues to increase.

KEEP INFORMED ON ISSUES

Learning about the issues that could affect your health is the first step in becoming empowered to improve these issues. There are a number of resources available to those who are interested, but you have to make sure you are getting correct information from a reliable source.

Here are some of the best links to Healthy Homes information :

U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/hhi/index.cfm>

The National Center for Healthy Housing:

<http://www.centerforhealthyhousing.org/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/healthyhomes.htm>

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE IN BOONE COUNTY'S PROGRAM?

EDUCATION:

Boone County's H.O.M.E. program is free to residents of Boone County. These educational seminars are held throughout the year around the County and are widely available. No pre-registration is required to attend these seminars and they are widely publicized by the local media outlets and direct mailing of event flyers. Contact the Boone County Health and Sanitation Department if you would like to be added to a H.O.M.E. Seminar mailing list.

REFERRAL:

A Healthy Homes Inspection is the second part of the Keep Boone County Healthy program. Since these inspections are voluntary and resources are limited, referrals are required from a health care provider or other public service agency such as Police, Fire, DHS or Home Health Representative. These referrals will be prioritized by need and urgency and scheduled accordingly. A commitment from residents to participate in the program is required prior to the inspection process.