

Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners

Exercise #9 – Practice Visual Assessment & Identify Potential Violations

Instructions: *The purpose of this exercise is to familiarize you with a common visual assessment tool and help you understand its strengths and weaknesses so you may better evaluate the tools that will fit your program.*

Step 1: *Take the packet from the References section of the binder labeled “CEHRC Visual Survey” instructions. Look through the instructions. The trainer will review key elements of the instructions and then show you a series of photos. Based on the photos complete the visual assessment form. You do not need to complete the floor plan or site plan.*

Step 2: *Using the International Property Maintenance Code, identify which sections of the model code that were violated in the home. Indicate which problems are clearly violations and which ones require more investigation. If something requires more investigation, then identify what investigation is needed. If a local housing code is available, compare the completed Visual Survey with the local housing code.*

Step 3 *Identify three strengths and three weaknesses of the CEHRC Visual Survey.*

About the Packet:

Healthy homes programs have developed many tools to conduct a visual assessment for healthy homes issues. Most of the healthy homes visual assessments are tailored to the particular needs of the program. Many community-based organizations used the CEHRC Visual Survey developed by the Alliance for Healthy Homes. CEHRC is a program of the Alliance. It stands for the Community Environmental Health Resource Center. The materials are available at www.cephrc.org or follow the link from www.afhh.org.

The Visual Survey is the first step in the CEHRC hazard assessment process. The Visual Survey gives hazard investigators an initial opportunity to talk to residents about things they have noticed about their home. Looking around the outside and inside of the home, Hazard investigators can begin to understand the general condition of the home, and target sampling as appropriate. Some hazards will only be assessed through the Visual Survey as visual evidence of a hazard might be sufficient to trigger control measures or other action. Others require more sampling to quantify the particular hazard.

The CEHRC's Visual Survey consists of:

- Instructions;
- Visual Survey Report;
- Floor Plan; and
- Site Plan.

The materials are available in Spanish and English.

For this exercise, we will use the Visual Survey Report.

Visual Survey Report

Resident: _____

Alternate Contact: _____

Address: _____

Unit # _____ Unique ID _____

Resident Phone: _____

Visual Conducted by: _____

Date: _____

Make a checkmark (✓) if the problem appears in the room or area. For deteriorated paint and water damage, indicate the extent of the problem (see instructions) Use the extra rows to identify any other hazards you notice. Put an asterisk (*) above any room(s) where a child sleeps or plays. Circle (○) where you photograph a problem.

ROOM OR AREA

PROBLEM		Exterior	Porch	Entryway	Living Room	Dining Room	Kitchen	Bedroom 1	Bedroom 2	Bedroom 3	Bathroom 1	Bathroom 2	Basement		
Deteriorated paint	Walls														
	Windows, door, or trim														
	Paint chips on floor														
Soil with no grass or mulch															
Cockroaches															
Rodents															
Holes in wall															
Mold/ Mildew	Obvious source of moisture														
	No obvious source of moisture														
Water Damage: walls wet/newly stained															
Strong musty smell															
Natural gas/sewer gas smell															
Unvented gas oven/dryer/heater															
Worn-out carpeting															
Other:															
Other:															
Other:															
Other:															
Other:															

If renting, received lead hazard disclosure information from landlord? Yes No

Follow-up visit scheduled for: Date _____ Time: _____

Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners
Exercise #9 – Practice Visual Assessment & Identify Potential Violations

Step 2: Identify the Potential Code Violations in Photos

Section of Int'l Property Maintenance Code	Definite Violation	Potential Violation	Responsible Person	Information Needed
302.1 Sanitation				
302.2 Grading and Drainage				
302.5 Rodent Harborage				
302.6 Exhaust Vents				
304.2 Protective Treatment				
304.5 Foundation Walls				
304.6 Exterior Walls				
304.7 Roofs and Drainage				
304.14 Insect Screens				
304.17 Guards for Basement Windows				
305.1 General				
305.3 Interior Surfaces				
307.1 Accumulation of Rubbish or Garbage				
308.1 Infestation				
308.2 Owner				
308.3 Single Occupant				
308.4 Multiple Occupancy				
308.5 Occupant				
403.1 Habitable Spaces				
403.2 Bathrooms and Toilet Rooms				
403.4 Process Ventilation				
403.5 Clothes Dryer Exhaust				
503.4 Floor Surface				
505.4 Water Heating Facilities				
602.2 Residential Occupancies				
602.3 Heat Supply				
603.2 Removal of Combustion Products				
603.5 Combustion Air				
603.6 Energy Conservation Devices				
607.1 General				

Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners
Exercise #9 – Practice Visual Assessment & Identify Potential Violations

Step 3: Evaluate CEHRC Visual Survey

Three Strengths:

1.

2.

3.

Three Weaknesses:

1.

2.

3.