

Among the many aspects of environmental law, the most ubiquitous (and humble) are those aspects of the law and regulation that affect our health and well being in our own homes. The following checklist contains issues sometimes categorized under the heading “health and safety regulations”, “municipal law” and “air and water quality law.” This checklist encourages investigation of these often overlooked issues when purchasing residential real estate.

Interior

- Lead Paint
- Asbestos
- Radon
- Lead Plumbing
- Carbon Monoxide
- Water Quality Analysis
- Wood-Boring Pests
- Miscellaneous Hazardous Materials (paint, stains, pesticides, motor oil and anti-freeze, cleaning solutions)
- Evidence of Oil or Hazardous Materials Contamination
- Mold and Other Indoor Air Pollutants

Exterior

- Lead Paint
- Asbestos Siding
- Pesticide Applications
- Septic System or other Wastewater System
- Wood-Boring Pests
- Underground Fuel Storage Tanks
- Defective Construction or Structures

Property and Grounds

- Septic Systems
- Drinking Water Supply (public/private)
- Wetlands, Riverfront Area and Floodplains
- General Condition of all Structures
- Evidence of Oil or Hazardous Materials Contamination
- Establishment of Property Boundaries