

HEALTHY HOMES RATING SYSTEM

National **Healthy Homes**
Training Center
and Network





COURSE GOALS

Enable students to:

- Interpret and apply the principles of the Healthy Homes Rating System (HHRS),
- Prioritize corrective actions, and
- Communicate their findings in a HHRS Assessment Report.





STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Interpret housing-related health hazards using evidence-based likelihood and spread of harm data

Calculate hazard scores and identify hazard bands

Identify and prioritize effective corrective actions

Produce a Healthy Homes Rating System Assessment Report



COURSE OVERVIEW

Module 1: HHS Overview

Module 2: Do a Healthy Homes Assessment

Module 3: Classify/Categorize Deficiencies into Hazards

Module 4: Evaluate Health Impacts

Module 5: Determine Appropriate Actions and Generate a Report





Module 1

HHRS OVERVIEW





LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this module, students will be able to:

- Describe the purpose of the HHRS
- List four steps included in the HHRS process
- Define four common HHRS terms
- Identify two important HHRS resources





STUDENT MATERIALS

- Slides for each module
- HHRS Operating Guidance
- Worked Examples
- Hazard Summary Chart
- Paper-based Scoring sheets
- Instructions for submitting an assessment





WHAT IS THE HHRS?

- Process to analyze and prioritize health hazards in the home
- Focuses on the risk to health and safety, rather than cosmetic or physical conditions
- Helps determine the most important hazards to address



THE HHRS PROCESS

Step 1

- Inspecting the Dwelling

Step 2

- Linking Deficiencies to Hazards

Step 3

- Scoring the Hazard

Step 4

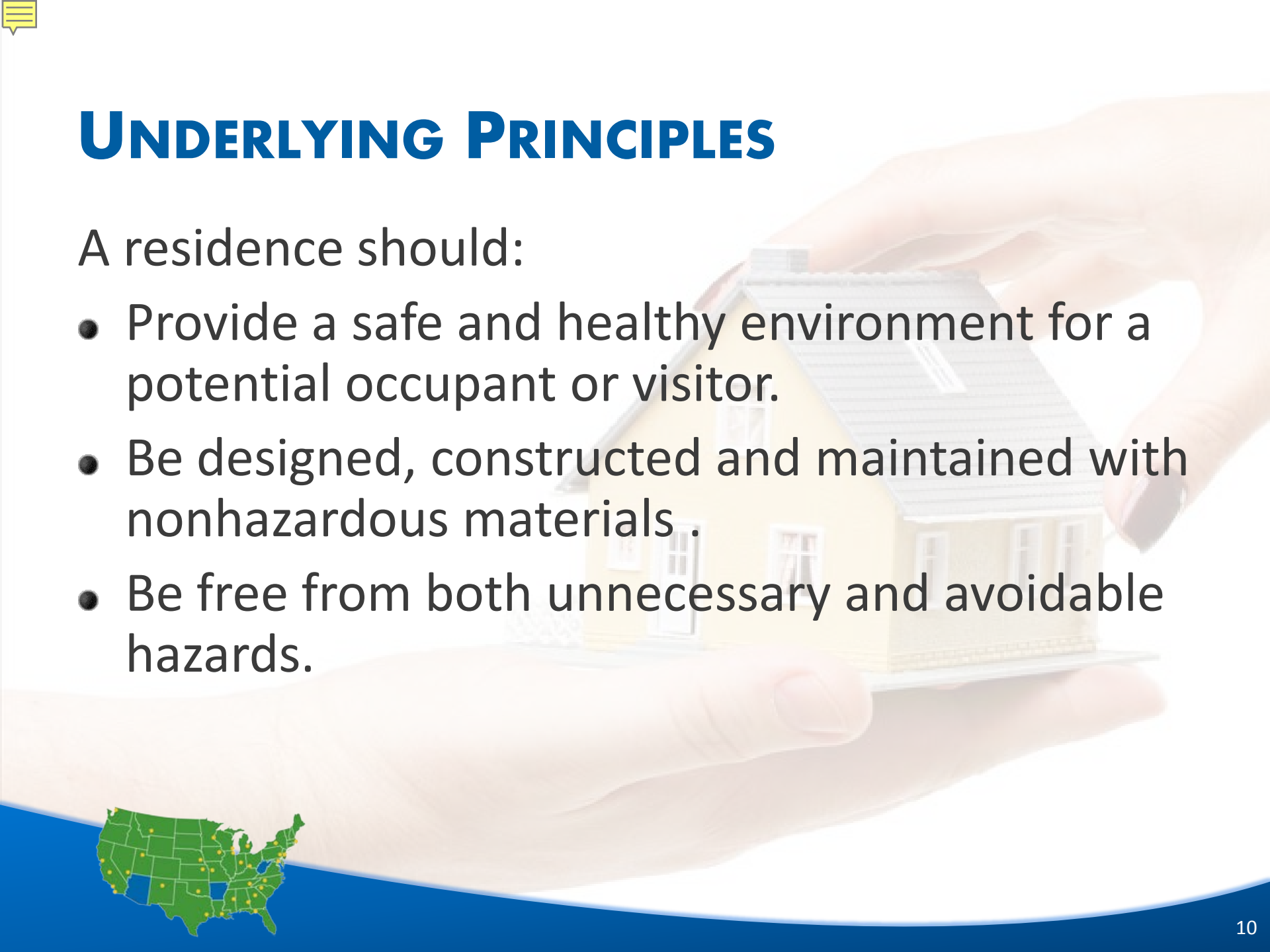
- Determining the Appropriate Action





UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES

A residence should:

- Provide a safe and healthy environment for a potential occupant or visitor.
 - Be designed, constructed and maintained with nonhazardous materials.
 - Be free from both unnecessary and avoidable hazards.
- 
- A large, soft-focus image of a hand holding a small, yellow, two-story house model. The hand is positioned as if presenting the model. The background is a light, neutral color.





HHRS TERMS

Element:

- Part of a dwelling (a wall, window, staircase, etc.).

Ideal:

- The standard for the element that is intended to prevent, avoid or minimize a hazard.

Hazard:

- The risk of harm that arises from a deficiency in the element.



WHAT IS A DEFICIENCY? (TERMS CONT.)

Deficiency:

- Failure of an element to meet the ideal

For the HHRS the most important factor is whether the deficiency could result in a hazard over the next 12 months





HAZARDS AND THEIR IMPACT ON HEALTH

Connection between:

- Physiological and psychological requirements for human life, and
- of the functions of a dwelling.

A dwelling should:

- provide shelter, space and facilities
- be suitable for a variety of households and individuals

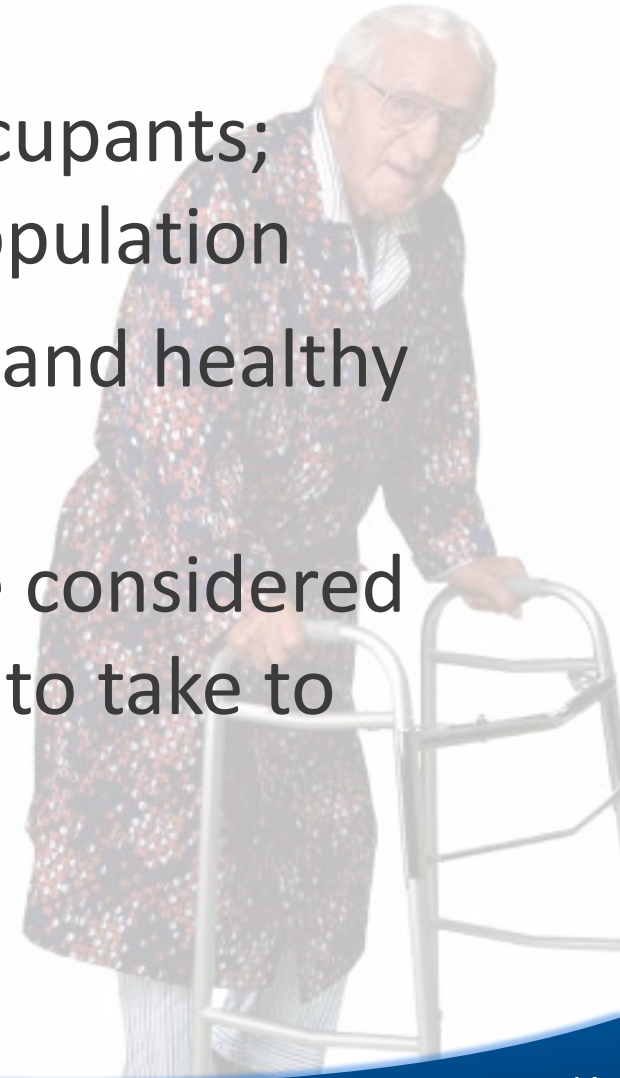
Review the Operating Guidance





OCCUPANTS AND DEFICIENCIES

- Do NOT focus on the current occupants; consider the most vulnerable population
- Goal is to make dwelling as safe and healthy as possible
- NOTE: Current occupants will be considered when determining what actions to take to address identified hazards.





HOW IT WORKS

Assesses the likelihood a hazard will occur and the potential severity of harm

Creates a numerical score to compare hazards using a prescribed formula

Used to compare highly likely minor hazards and very unlikely major ones

The higher the score... the greater the risk



WHERE DID THE HHRS COME FROM?

- Developed and tested over ten years in Great Britain (became law in 2006)
- Key principle – dwellings should provide a safe and healthy environment for the most vulnerable occupants





KEY FEATURES

The HHRS is a rating system (not a standard).

The HHRS uses a risk-assessment methodology.

Statistics are used to assist in making judgments about hazards.

Hazards are rated according to how serious they are to health.

Software is available to perform the scoring calculations.





USING THE HHRS

Scores allow comparison of widely differing hazards

Occupants and owners can prioritize hazards

Local officials can prioritize funding to address most serious issues

Local policy makers can identify which areas of the community are in greatest need of attention and what health impacts are possible

Review worked examples





REVIEW

- The HHRS is a _____ system, not a _____
- What is the underlying principle of the HHRS?
- List the four steps to be used in HHRS process.
- Name four HHRS terms and explain their definition
- What two resources should you be familiar with when using the HHRS?

