

# Reduce Your Child's Risk of Exposure to Lead

- Clean up all lead dust and chips by wet wiping or wet mopping. Do not dry dust.
- Cover all areas with peeling or damaged paint using furniture or other barriers.
- Cover windows that have deteriorating paint on their sills or in their wells.
- Do not allow your child (or pet) to play in areas with bare soil.
- Always wash your child's hands and toys, especially before eating and at bedtime. Wash pacifiers and bottles after they fall on the floors; keep extras handy.
- Replace, repair, or remove all lead hazards in your home in a lead-safe manner. Consult your local health department for assistance and guidance.
- Run water for 15 to 30 seconds before drinking it, especially if you have not used your water for a few hours.
- Feed your child a healthy, balanced diet. Make sure your child gets enough iron and calcium. Foods rich in iron include eggs, lean red meats, and beans. Dairy products are high in calcium.

Please cut this section and retain as a quick reference card.



To learn more about lead poisoning and the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, call the Connecticut Department of Public Health at: 860-509-7745 / 860-509-7299

or visit our web site at: [www.dph.state.ct.us/brs/lead/lead\\_program.htm](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/brs/lead/lead_program.htm)

or, contact one of the two Regional Lead Treatment Centers:

**Hartford Regional Lead Treatment Center**  
860-714-4792

**Yale-New Haven Regional Lead Treatment Center**  
203-764-9106



*Partners in Protecting the Health of Connecticut's Children*



Keeping Connecticut Healthy

[www.dph.state.ct.us](http://www.dph.state.ct.us)  
Governor John G. Rowland  
Commissioner Joxel Garcia, M.D., M.B.A.

# Preventing Childhood Lead Poisoning in Connecticut



**The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program**  
State of Connecticut  
Department of Public Health



## Every Year, Thousands of Children are Poisoned by Lead.

Childhood lead poisoning is one of the most common, yet most preventable, pediatric health problems in Connecticut today. Lead poisoning can strike any child, regardless of nationality, race, geographic location, or economic status. Any amount of lead in the body is unsafe and can cause permanent damage to a child's health.

## The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP)

The CLPPP takes a leadership role in lead poisoning prevention and intervention. We provide services to local health departments, health care providers, and the public. The mission of the CLPPP is to reduce the incidence of lead poisoning among Connecticut Children. To accomplish this, the CLPPP uses a three-pronged approach: *education and intervention, surveillance, and case management.*

### Services provided include, but are not limited to:

- Educational workshops and lectures to targeted audiences
- Technical assistance to health care providers, day care providers, educators and parents

- Lead poisoning surveillance data to ensure that all at-risk children are tested and that appropriate intervention and case management exists for lead poisoned children
- Specialized training courses for lead abatement and inspection personnel
- Distribution of bilingual educational materials and information as well as culturally appropriate intervention programs
- Environmental management oversight for lead paint remediation, encapsulation and abatement, and regulatory enforcement
- Licensing and certification of lead professionals
- Oversight of case management activities at local health departments
- Laboratory services using the State of Connecticut laboratory
- Outreach campaigns and activities
- Technical resources and information



# Sources of Lead

- Lead paint is found in homes built before 1978. Homes built prior to 1950 are sure to contain even more lead.
- Lead may be found in dust, soil, food, and water.
- Lead may be found in some imported ceramic dinnerware, and mini-blinds made before 1996. Some toys and cosmetics also contain lead.
- Lead is found in ethnic home remedies (i.e. azarcon, greta, kandu, alkohol), and is used in some hobbies and occupations, such as painting and/or ceramic glazing.

## How Lead Affects Your Child's Health

- Lead is absorbed into your child's bloodstream.
- Lead poisoning can cause learning and developmental problems in your child.
- Lead poisoning can have an affect on a child's behavior.
- Lead poisoned children may have problems with concentration, abdominal pain, and irritability.

**Most children do not show signs of lead poisoning until they are very severely poisoned.**