



Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

Today, childhood lead poisoning is considered the most preventable environmental disease among young children, yet approximately half a million U.S. children have blood lead levels above 5 micrograms per deciliter, the reference level at which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recommends public health actions be initiated. A simple blood test can prevent permanent damage that will last a lifetime www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/nlppw.htm.

This year's National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (NLPPW) theme, "Lead-Free Kids for a Healthy Future," stresses the importance of testing your home, testing your child, and learning how to prevent lead poisoning's serious health effects. Stopping a child's exposure to lead from leaded paint, house dust, or any other source is the best way to prevent the harmful effects of lead. Learn about what NVHD is doing to raise awareness and protect the community from lead hazards by going to <http://www.nvhd.org/community/lead-poisoning.php>.

Learn about the Naugatuck Valley Emends Lead Hazards Program (NauVel) by going to <http://www.nvhd.org/nauvel/>



Coloring book developed by CDC

Universal Blood Lead Testing is Mandated--Test children:

- Between 9 months and 36 months of age, each year for elevated blood lead levels (Most providers test at 12 months and 24 months of age)
 - Between 25 - 72 months of age, if not previously tested, regardless of risk
 - < 72 months of age, with developmental delays, especially if associated with pica-(ingestion of non-food items)
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