

MINUTES OF THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
March 11, 2019
East Conference Room

Present: Councilmembers Litten, George, Anderson

Also Present: Councilmembers Bullock & Rader, County Councilmember Dale Miller, Director Gelsomino, Jessica Parker from the Human Services Department, John Sobolewski from the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, a couple members of the public, and Deputy Clerk Lascu taking minutes

Call to Order: 7:15 p.m.

Communication from Councilmembers Litten & Rader regarding lead exposure among children. (Referred to Health & Human Services 2/19/19)

Councilman Litten opened the meeting by giving an overview of the communication written by him and Councilman Rader. He stated Lakewood's older housing stock is causing lead exposure among children in the community and that Council is looking to gain a better understanding of Lakewood's challenges on this issue and the broader issues of Cuyahoga County through this committee meeting.

Director Gelsomino stated that the Department of Human Services has revisited the issue of lead poisoning and lead exposure among children off and on since Lakewood's Health Department was closed. In the past, Lakewood's health services were very aggressive in lead education. The department screened every child in every daycare provider or school. The department had nurses that could do those screenings and the state provided a significant amount of funding to do that. She shared with the committee a "Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home" packet (attached) that the department had passed out in the past. Information packets like these were placed in common community gathering places and doctors' offices throughout Lakewood. The Health Department would also run community education opportunities, with a generally positive response. They found some children with elevated lead levels in their blood and intervened with coordinated approach with public health staff, sanitarians, and nursing staff. When Lakewood entered into a contract with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, the agency then took on that role and has been actively involved in the community.

John Sobolewski of the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (BOH) stated that his agency has been the contract health department for Lakewood since 2008. Since then, they have added additional services and have employed some former employees of Lakewood's Health Department. He shared data (attached) that compared the number of children with elevated lead blood levels and the number of children tested in 2004 and 2017. BOH has seen a 65% reduction in children with elevated blood levels since 2004. BOH has delegated authority from the Ohio Department of Health to run a comprehensive childhood lead poisoning prevention program. He stated BOH responds to children with elevated blood levels and initiates the steps in the public health response, which he briefly described. He stated that it is a secondary response and only occurs after a child has been poisoned. The critical issue in the childhood lead poisoning matter

is that it is primarily a housing issue. Lead is a neurotoxin and a poison that affects IQ even at very low levels. The key is to prevent exposure in a residential setting and the soil around the house. He stated that half of Lakewood's 27,000 housing units are rental and that 46 kids have been identified in 2017 as having elevated blood lead levels. He cited a Mandel school study that found that 80% of children from ages 0-6 in the area have received a blood lead test, while only 50% of children from ages 1-2 have been tested. He stated that a housing-based approach is the key to solving this problem and that the city is well positioned to do so. Education is a low cost low impact method of addressing lead poisoning, while fixing a house is a high cost, high impact method. He referred to a Pay For Success study on BOH's website conducted by Capital Partners that addresses the costs associated with lead poisoning. Since 2000, BOH has spent about \$2 million fixing 210 homes with HUD grants and CDBG money. There is a limit on how much the Board can spend on a home with their HUD grants, but city staff members have been helpful to residents in finding funding to complete the jobs. SCHIP, at the state level, has been very proactive using CHIP dollars through Medicaid to set aside dollars to fix homes. With the County's grant program, a family has to be moderate to low income, which leaves a gap where folks are not able to qualify. The BOH anticipates that more federal dollars will come from HUD to address this issue and they have seen private investment in solving the problem through various foundation efforts.

Director Gelsomino asked for clarification what the prevention program entails. Mr. Sobolewski stated that it is prevention in name only. BOH has done education efforts out in the community. He made that point that knowledge has less of an impact until someone is personally affected by an issue. He stated with lead, there is a poison in the house and if it was any other type of poison, people would be angry and demanding action. However since its part of the structure and has always been there, we as a community tend to not look at it until children have an exposure. In many cases, lead poisoning occurs when dust is located on window sills, ledges, etc. where a child reaches up and touches it, puts their hands/toys in their mouth afterward. These normal childhood development activities occur at the same time when one is physiologically able to absorb the most lead.

Director Gelsomino asked if there is any law that says a lead test must happen at a child's age 1 physician check-up. Mr. Sobolewski stated that Medicaid requires a screening between ages 1 and 2 for all children on the program. He is unaware of any laws that require it outside the program. He stated it all depends on the healthcare provider in order to be effective. Factors such as where they're located and how they emphasize it play a role in whether children are tested. Follow up testing does occur at other cycles if they test at a certain blood lead level.

Director Gelsomino asked if you have a family in Lakewood that uses the immunization clinics, can the clinics be giving a lead test. Mr. Sobolewski responded that BOH has several clinics throughout the area, with their main facility being based in Parma. The Lakewood and Parma clinics are available by appointment and BOH now has the capability to do a blood lead test. Screening rates have remained fairly stable across the county over the last 20 years. Medicaid recipients have a fairly stable rate of screening. WIC does not do screening anymore. The WIC clinics used to for an 18 month period, which caused screening rates to spike for a short time.

County Councilman Dale Miller asked if there is a county program for inspecting houses or does the county wait to do that until a child is diagnosed. Mr. Sobolewski stated that the county and private individuals provide inspections. In the state of Ohio, every discipline related to lead is licensed. The BOH has 8 individuals licensed to conduct lead inspections. These inspectors are available for hire if a homeowner is looking to have a proactive inspection. At that point, the county acts as a consultant for a \$350 fee where they would take a comprehensive inventory of where the lead paint is in a house. Private companies would charge 3-4 times as much. Generally, not many county inspections have been done. The Board of Health used to do a lot of contract work for the city prior to the Health Department closing, due to Lakewood's urgency on inspections.

Councilman Anderson asked for an approximate percentage of housing units that have unsafe exposures to lead. Mr. Sobolewski stated that any structures built prior to World War II is likely to have lead-based paint, the highest amount of lead in that paint, and has been subject to the most years of deterioration. Based on 2010 census data, Mr. Sobolewski estimates that at least 65% of Lakewood's housing stock was built pre-1940 or pre-WWII.

Councilman Anderson asked if there is objectivity among all the professionals involved that a home with lead-based paint needs to be remediated or not. Mr. Sobolewski stated that the professionals involved with the issue of lead poisoning follow HUD guidelines. The guidelines define how to do an inspection and how to identify a lead-based hazard. There are ways to evaluate a home objectively and ways to fix a home that do not necessarily include removal of all lead-based paint, but ways to manage the hazards. He stated that windows, front porches, and bare soil are the most significant areas where lead can be found and provide higher exposure risk. These are all impact surfaces, where paint can be ground off through use. Routine property maintenance goes a long way in mitigating risk. He added that Lakewood had a very good rolling cycle of grading houses. The first step is having a good code enforcement program. The next level up is how we make lead a part of a rental registration program. Lessons can be taken from the Housing Choice Voucher Program, which is predicated on high requirement inspections and provides a good level of inspection that defers to the owner on how to come into compliance with lead-safe practices.

Councilman Anderson asked if anyone who is on any of the public healthcare subsidiaries is found to have a high level of lead in their blood, what happens from there. Mr. Sobolewski responded that the blood sample goes to the blood lab that reports to the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). ODH then notifies BOH who then contacts the primary care giver of the family to set up an environmental assessment.

Councilwoman George asked when the Lakewood Health Department tested children's blood levels. Director Gelsomino stated that in 2000 one of the department's major initiatives was testing children in the public pre-schools. She also stated that they should be tested sooner than that, which is being done now through other means. Councilwoman George asked to confirm that the main sources of the problem are windows, chipped paint, front porches, and soil. Mr. Sobolewski confirmed that and added that the reason why bare soil is problematic is that every

car up until 1972 had lead in its fuel. The emissions from these cars have leaked into every main thoroughfare and driveway in Cleveland and its inner ring suburbs.

Councilman Rader asked in regard to SCHIP funding, does it apply to people that own their homes or does it include people in rental properties as well. Mr. Sobolewski stated that it applies to children on the program universally. SCHIP has funding available for communities but is struggling to get children into the program because it is centralized through the state health department.

Councilman Rader asked Councilman Anderson, as chair of the Housing Committee, what the barriers are for doing lead inspections every time the city inspects a home. Councilman Litten informed him that Assistant Law Director Swallow shared with him a section of the code (1306.29) that states all foundations, floors walls, should be weather tight. There is a possibility that the city could use this existing section of code to ensure lead based paint inspections inside of a home. Currently the city only is citing for exterior conditions. Councilwoman George asked if the city is doing lead inspections at point of sale inspections and Councilman Litten responded that the city is currently not doing that. Councilman Bullock added that he believes it is a capacity issue for Building Department staff. He added that the city found an efficient system to address the citing of sidewalks and that a similar methodology may have to be applied to address the lead issue.

Councilman Bullock stated it seemed like everywhere outside is a risk due to the lead that was in gas and asked why is there emphasis on the soil areas around the edge of the house and the porch. Mr. Sobolewski stated that it is due to people scraping paint off the side of their homes for the past 80 years and people's feet scuffing the paint off their porches.

Councilman Bullock asked in regard to maintaining a good 5 year schedule on rental registration inspections, is the emphasis staying on top of the paint cover and seal. Mr. Sobolewski confirmed that it is a constant battle to keep painting the home and that the paint is in good condition. Impact surfaces must be examined and where one is going to abate lead paint.

Councilman Bullock asked if Lakewood were to get more tools back in the mix to address lead poisoning, what should the city focus on and how does it get federal funding. Mr. Sobolewski stated that BOH can continue to do the environmental piece and provide a more comprehensive approach. The BOH environmental piece, and provide more comprehensive approach. The BOH environmental response is superior to the state level's response. Resources must go into having housing compliance in order to be proactive. This type of effort does not require onerous certifications. Councilman Bullock stated that it seems the answer is getting more money to focus on housing than getting more lead testing for children. Mr. Sobolewski responded that the message needs to be out in the community and Lakewood Alive is doing a good job of that. However the housing approach is the primary prevention tool. Lakewood's ability to decrease lead poisoning is manageable because of the good rents and good housing values that the

community fetches. If you're a homeowner, you're probably going to see returns in property value or rents if you invest in your property. It is a resource issue that adds time and cost to inspections of homes but it is an investment.

Councilman Anderson made a point that the inspection provides a window into how the property is at a point in time. Mr. Sobolewski agreed with this point and added that although it may never be 100% compliant, a property will certainly be better than it was under these types of inspections. It does not take a high degree of training to detect lead hazards. Councilman Anderson added that this problem is similar to addressing asbestos in years past. Mr. Sobolewski agreed that it is similar in approach and principle.

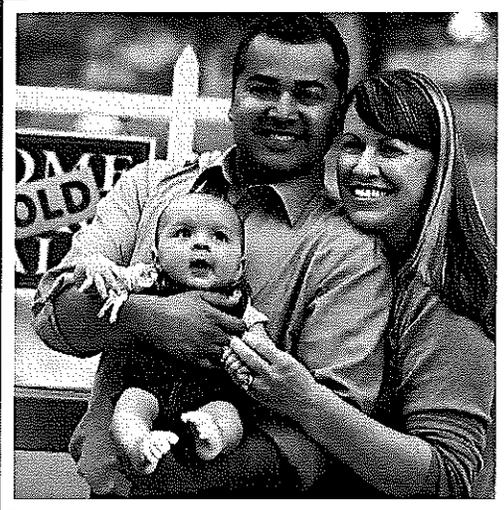
Councilman Litten stated that we would like to hear from Ms. Casey Tobik, who was a member of the public in attendance at the meeting whose family was affected by lead poisoning. Ms. Tobik stated that she bought her first Lakewood home in January 2018 and has 2 kids with her husband, ages 5 and 2. Her physician notified her that one of her kids had elevated lead levels, which were followed by phone calls from the state and county to do an inspection. Lead was found behind door jams and other places in the home. Her family did not qualify for any county programs but was able to get help through a Key Bank low interest loan program. She feels you need to move out of Lakewood if you're renting because there's no guarantee that your child will be safe with the age of the housing stock. Her child's levels were tested at 19.8 and she got it from just dust from windows, door jams. She stated it could have been prevented. She suggested that for whatever dollars come in, to put them into inspecting the housing stock. The affects of lead poisoning on her child have yet to be seen. Her other child tested at 0 blood levels of lead. She stated that every single mom that she has spoken to thinks that their kids have never been tested. She added that a lot less of the community is falling into Medicaid & CHIP bracket so we need to find ways to prevent lead poisoning of children from affecting other families.

Director Gelsomino added that there is no one single strategy to addressing this issue and that it requires a multi-faceted approach. Mr. Sobolewski added that bringing the Building Department into the process is critical.

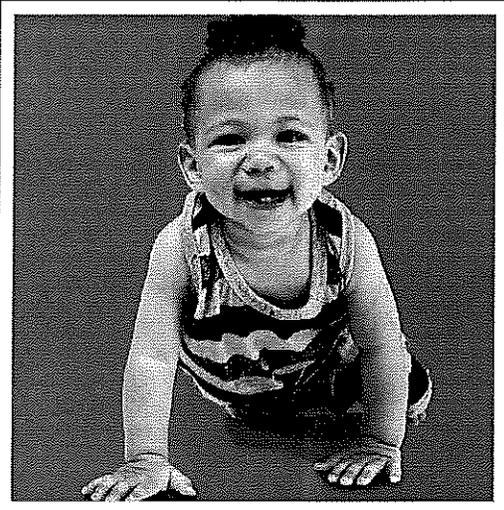
Jessica Parker, program manager for the Department of Human Services' early childhood program, added that education is key and shared some of her personal experience being a mother and dealing with lead exposures. She stated that 300 families go through her the early childhood division programming and each family has been made aware of the harm of lead exposures. She added that the city can make simple reminders about lead in water bills and new resident information bags. Her department has also done various forums on lead. Lakewood Alive is going into targeted neighborhoods to drop literature on the issue, on both the east and west ends of Lakewood. She noted that data sets between the Building Department's poor graded houses and the county's noted areas of high lead exposure risk did not much up well. Lastly, she suggested that people look at Toledo's website which shows a video of a home inspection and provides incentives if homeowners pass a lead inspection the first time.

Councilman Litten stated that the committee will call another meeting on the matter and he foresees the potential to start a taskforce on the issue. He noted there are many variables that play a factor in this problem (the transience of residents for example) and expressed a need for Council to examine city codes and determine who the partners are in crafting a solution. Lakewood needs to approach this issue in the same way it addressed the opioid crisis. He stated a need to partner with Lakewood Alive and North Coast Health/Neighborhood Family Practice. He added that the city needs to look at using CDBG dollars in a new way. Lastly, he asked if the city can partner with Lakewood daycares to have information and training session in their facilities and Ms. Parker confirmed she can work with staff to do that.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.



Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home



United States
Environmental
Protection Agency



United States
Consumer Product
Safety Commission



United States
Department of Housing
and Urban Development

Are You Planning to Buy or Rent a Home Built Before 1978?

Did you know that many homes built before 1978 have **lead-based paint**? Lead from paint, chips, and dust can pose serious health hazards.

Read this entire brochure to learn:

- How lead gets into the body
- How lead affects health
- What you can do to protect your family
- Where to go for more information

Before renting or buying a pre-1978 home or apartment, federal law requires:

- Sellers must disclose known information on lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards before selling a house.
- Real estate sales contracts must include a specific warning statement about lead-based paint. Buyers have up to 10 days to check for lead.
- Landlords must disclose known information on lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards before leases take effect. Leases must include a specific warning statement about lead-based paint.

If undertaking renovations, repairs, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or apartment:

- Read EPA's pamphlet, *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*, to learn about the lead-safe work practices that contractors are required to follow when working in your home (see page 12).



Simple Steps to Protect Your Family from Lead Hazards

If you think your home has lead-based paint:

- Don't try to remove lead-based paint yourself.
- Always keep painted surfaces in good condition to minimize deterioration.
- Get your home checked for lead hazards. Find a certified inspector or risk assessor at epa.gov/lead.
- Talk to your landlord about fixing surfaces with peeling or chipping paint.
- Regularly clean floors, window sills, and other surfaces.
- Take precautions to avoid exposure to lead dust when remodeling.
- When renovating, repairing, or painting, hire only EPA- or state-approved Lead-Safe certified renovation firms.
- Before buying, renting, or renovating your home, have it checked for lead-based paint.
- Consult your health care provider about testing your children for lead. Your pediatrician can check for lead with a simple blood test.
- Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers, and toys often.
- Make sure children eat healthy, low-fat foods high in iron, calcium, and vitamin C.
- Remove shoes or wipe soil off shoes before entering your house.

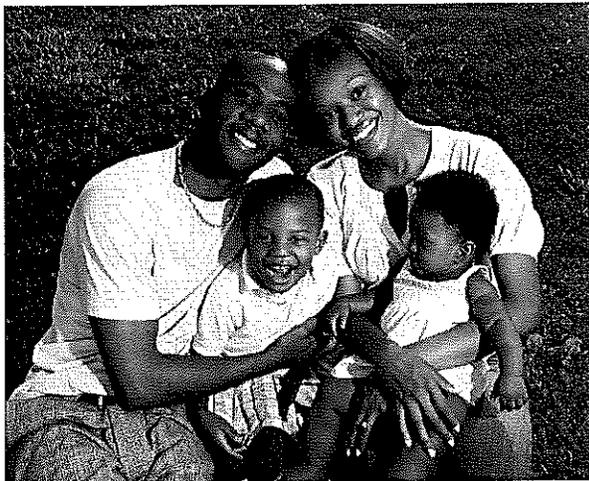
Lead Gets into the Body in Many Ways

Adults and children can get lead into their bodies if they:

- Breathe in lead dust (especially during activities such as renovations, repairs, or painting that disturb painted surfaces).
- Swallow lead dust that has settled on food, food preparation surfaces, and other places.
- Eat paint chips or soil that contains lead.

Lead is especially dangerous to children under the age of 6.

- At this age, children's brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead.
- Children's growing bodies absorb more lead.
- Babies and young children often put their hands and other objects in their mouths. These objects can have lead dust on them.



Women of childbearing age should know that lead is dangerous to a developing fetus.

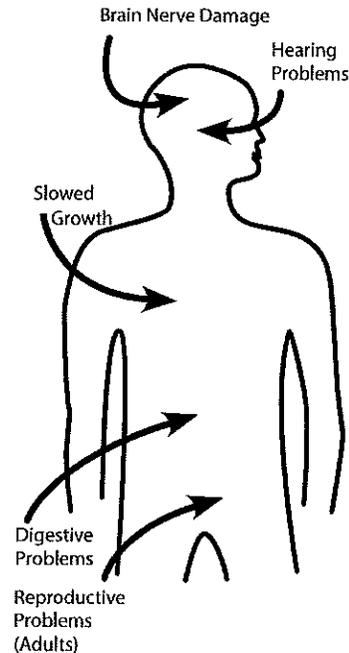
- Women with a high lead level in their system before or during pregnancy risk exposing the fetus to lead through the placenta during fetal development.

Health Effects of Lead

Lead affects the body in many ways. It is important to know that even exposure to low levels of lead can severely harm children.

In children, exposure to lead can cause:

- Nervous system and kidney damage
- Learning disabilities, attention-deficit disorder, and decreased intelligence
- Speech, language, and behavior problems
- Poor muscle coordination
- Decreased muscle and bone growth
- Hearing damage



While low-lead exposure is most common, exposure to high amounts of lead can have devastating effects on children, including seizures, unconsciousness, and in some cases, death.

Although children are especially susceptible to lead exposure, lead can be dangerous for adults, too.

In adults, exposure to lead can cause:

- Harm to a developing fetus
- Increased chance of high blood pressure during pregnancy
- Fertility problems (in men and women)
- High blood pressure
- Digestive problems
- Nerve disorders
- Memory and concentration problems
- Muscle and joint pain

Check Your Family for Lead

Get your children and home tested if you think your home has lead.

Children's blood lead levels tend to increase rapidly from 6 to 12 months of age, and tend to peak at 18 to 24 months of age.

Consult your doctor for advice on testing your children. A simple blood test can detect lead. Blood lead tests are usually recommended for:

- Children at ages 1 and 2
- Children or other family members who have been exposed to high levels of lead
- Children who should be tested under your state or local health screening plan

Your doctor can explain what the test results mean and if more testing will be needed.

Where Lead-Based Paint Is Found

In general, the older your home or childcare facility, the more likely it has lead-based paint.¹

Many homes, including private, federally-assisted, federally-owned housing, and childcare facilities built before 1978 have lead-based paint. In 1978, the federal government banned consumer uses of lead-containing paint.²

Learn how to determine if paint is lead-based paint on page 7.

Lead can be found:

- In homes and childcare facilities in the city, country, or suburbs,
- In private and public single-family homes and apartments,
- On surfaces inside and outside of the house, and
- In soil around a home. (Soil can pick up lead from exterior paint or other sources, such as past use of leaded gas in cars.)

Learn more about where lead is found at epa.gov/lead.

¹ "Lead-based paint" is currently defined by the federal government as paint with lead levels greater than or equal to 1.0 milligram per square centimeter (mg/cm), or more than 0.5% by weight.

² "Lead-containing paint" is currently defined by the federal government as lead in new dried paint in excess of 90 parts per million (ppm) by weight.

Identifying Lead-Based Paint and Lead-Based Paint Hazards

Deteriorating lead-based paint (peeling, chipping, chalking, cracking, or damaged paint) is a hazard and needs immediate attention. **Lead-based paint** may also be a hazard when found on surfaces that children can chew or that get a lot of wear and tear, such as:

- On windows and window sills
- Doors and door frames
- Stairs, railings, banisters, and porches

Lead-based paint is usually not a hazard if it is in good condition and if it is not on an impact or friction surface like a window.

Lead dust can form when lead-based paint is scraped, sanded, or heated. Lead dust also forms when painted surfaces containing lead bump or rub together. Lead paint chips and dust can get on surfaces and objects that people touch. Settled lead dust can reenter the air when the home is vacuumed or swept, or when people walk through it. EPA currently defines the following levels of lead in dust as hazardous:

- 40 micrograms per square foot ($\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$) and higher for floors, including carpeted floors
- 250 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ and higher for interior window sills

Lead in soil can be a hazard when children play in bare soil or when people bring soil into the house on their shoes. EPA currently defines the following levels of lead in soil as hazardous:

- 400 parts per million (ppm) and higher in play areas of bare soil
- 1,200 ppm (average) and higher in bare soil in the remainder of the yard

Remember, lead from paint chips—which you can see—and lead dust—which you may not be able to see—both can be hazards.

The only way to find out if paint, dust, or soil lead hazards exist is to test for them. The next page describes how to do this.

Checking Your Home for Lead

You can get your home tested for lead in several different ways:

- A lead-based paint **inspection** tells you if your home has lead-based paint and where it is located. It won't tell you whether your home currently has lead hazards. A trained and certified testing professional, called a lead-based paint inspector, will conduct a paint inspection using methods, such as:
 - Portable x-ray fluorescence (XRF) machine
 - Lab tests of paint samples
- A **risk assessment** tells you if your home currently has any lead hazards from lead in paint, dust, or soil. It also tells you what actions to take to address any hazards. A trained and certified testing professional, called a risk assessor, will:
 - Sample paint that is deteriorated on doors, windows, floors, stairs, and walls
 - Sample dust near painted surfaces and sample bare soil in the yard
 - Get lab tests of paint, dust, and soil samples
- A combination inspection and risk assessment tells you if your home has any lead-based paint and if your home has any lead hazards, and where both are located.



Be sure to read the report provided to you after your inspection or risk assessment is completed, and ask questions about anything you do not understand.

Checking Your Home for Lead, continued

In preparing for renovation, repair, or painting work in a pre-1978 home, Lead-Safe Certified renovators (see page 12) may:

- Take paint chip samples to determine if lead-based paint is present in the area planned for renovation and send them to an EPA-recognized lead lab for analysis. In housing receiving federal assistance, the person collecting these samples must be a certified lead-based paint inspector or risk assessor
- Use EPA-recognized tests kits to determine if lead-based paint is absent (but not in housing receiving federal assistance)
- Presume that lead-based paint is present and use lead-safe work practices

There are state and federal programs in place to ensure that testing is done safely, reliably, and effectively. Contact your state or local agency for more information, visit epa.gov/lead, or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)** for a list of contacts in your area.³

³ Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

What You Can Do Now to Protect Your Family

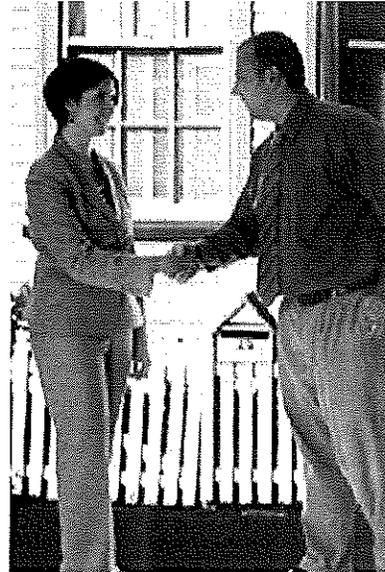
If you suspect that your house has lead-based paint hazards, you can take some immediate steps to reduce your family's risk:

- If you rent, notify your landlord of peeling or chipping paint.
- Keep painted surfaces clean and free of dust. Clean floors, window frames, window sills, and other surfaces weekly. Use a mop or sponge with warm water and a general all-purpose cleaner. (Remember: never mix ammonia and bleach products together because they can form a dangerous gas.)
- Carefully clean up paint chips immediately without creating dust.
- Thoroughly rinse sponges and mop heads often during cleaning of dirty or dusty areas, and again afterward.
- Wash your hands and your children's hands often, especially before they eat and before nap time and bed time.
- Keep play areas clean. Wash bottles, pacifiers, toys, and stuffed animals regularly.
- Keep children from chewing window sills or other painted surfaces, or eating soil.
- When renovating, repairing, or painting, hire only EPA- or state-approved Lead-Safe Certified renovation firms (see page 12).
- Clean or remove shoes before entering your home to avoid tracking in lead from soil.
- Make sure children eat nutritious, low-fat meals high in iron, and calcium, such as spinach and dairy products. Children with good diets absorb less lead.

Reducing Lead Hazards

Disturbing lead-based paint or removing lead improperly can increase the hazard to your family by spreading even more lead dust around the house.

- In addition to day-to-day cleaning and good nutrition, you can **temporarily** reduce lead-based paint hazards by taking actions, such as repairing damaged painted surfaces and planting grass to cover lead-contaminated soil. These actions are not permanent solutions and will need ongoing attention.



- You can minimize exposure to lead when renovating, repairing, or painting by hiring an EPA- or state-certified renovator who is trained in the use of lead-safe work practices. If you are a do-it-yourselfer, learn how to use lead-safe work practices in your home.
- To remove lead hazards permanently, you should hire a certified lead abatement contractor. Abatement (or permanent hazard elimination) methods include removing, sealing, or enclosing lead-based paint with special materials. Just painting over the hazard with regular paint is not permanent control.

Always use a certified contractor who is trained to address lead hazards safely.

- Hire a Lead-Safe Certified firm (see page 12) to perform renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects that disturb painted surfaces.
- To correct lead hazards permanently, hire a certified lead abatement professional. This will ensure your contractor knows how to work safely and has the proper equipment to clean up thoroughly.

Certified contractors will employ qualified workers and follow strict safety rules as set by their state or by the federal government.

Reducing Lead Hazards, continued

If your home has had lead abatement work done or if the housing is receiving federal assistance, once the work is completed, dust cleanup activities must be conducted until clearance testing indicates that lead dust levels are below the following levels:

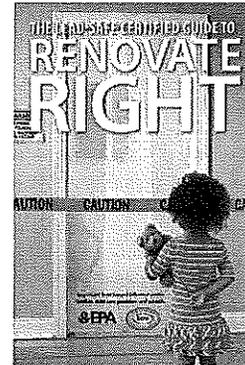
- 40 micrograms per square foot ($\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$) for floors, including carpeted floors
- 250 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for interior windows sills
- 400 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for window troughs

For help in locating certified lead abatement professionals in your area, call your state or local agency (see pages 14 and 15), or visit epa.gov/lead, or call 1-800-424-LEAD.

Renovating, Repairing or Painting a Home with Lead-Based Paint

If you hire a contractor to conduct renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or childcare facility (such as pre-school and kindergarten), your contractor must:

- Be a Lead-Safe Certified firm approved by EPA or an EPA-authorized state program
- Use qualified trained individuals (Lead-Safe Certified renovators) who follow specific lead-safe work practices to prevent lead contamination
- Provide a copy of EPA's lead hazard information document, *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*



RRP contractors working in pre-1978 homes and childcare facilities must follow lead-safe work practices that:

- **Contain the work area.** The area must be contained so that dust and debris do not escape from the work area. Warning signs must be put up, and plastic or other impermeable material and tape must be used.
- **Avoid renovation methods that generate large amounts of lead-contaminated dust.** Some methods generate so much lead-contaminated dust that their use is prohibited. They are:
 - Open-flame burning or torching
 - Sanding, grinding, planing, needle gunning, or blasting with power tools and equipment not equipped with a shroud and HEPA vacuum attachment
 - Using a heat gun at temperatures greater than 1100°F
- **Clean up thoroughly.** The work area should be cleaned up daily. When all the work is done, the area must be cleaned up using special cleaning methods.
- **Dispose of waste properly.** Collect and seal waste in a heavy duty bag or sheeting. When transported, ensure that waste is contained to prevent release of dust and debris.

To learn more about EPA's requirements for RRP projects, visit epa.gov/getleadsafe, or read *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*.

Other Sources of Lead

Lead in Drinking Water

The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures.

Lead pipes are more likely to be found in older cities and homes built before 1986.

You can't smell or taste lead in drinking water.

To find out for certain if you have lead in drinking water, have your water tested.

Remember older homes with a private well can also have plumbing materials that contain lead.

Important Steps You Can Take to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

- Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Remember, boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes.
- Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator).
- If you use a filter certified to remove lead, don't forget to read the directions to learn when to change the cartridge. Using a filter after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead.

Contact your water company to determine if the pipe that connects your home to the water main (called a service line) is made from lead. Your area's water company can also provide information about the lead levels in your system's drinking water.

For more information about lead in drinking water, please contact EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. If you have other questions about lead poisoning prevention, call 1-800 424-LEAD.*

Call your local health department or water company to find out about testing your water, or visit epa.gov/safewater for EPA's lead in drinking water information. Some states or utilities offer programs to pay for water testing for residents. Contact your state or local water company to learn more.

13 * Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

Other Sources of Lead, continued

- **Lead smelters** or other industries that release lead into the air.
- **Your job.** If you work with lead, you could bring it home on your body or clothes. Shower and change clothes before coming home. Launder your work clothes separately from the rest of your family's clothes.
- **Hobbies** that use lead, such as making pottery or stained glass, or refinishing furniture. Call your local health department for information about hobbies that may use lead.
- Old **toys** and **furniture** may have been painted with lead-containing paint. Older toys and other children's products may have parts that contain lead.⁴
- Food and liquids cooked or stored in **lead crystal** or **lead-glazed pottery or porcelain** may contain lead.
- Folk remedies, such as "**greta**" and "**azarcon,**" used to treat an upset stomach.

⁴ In 1978, the federal government banned toys, other children's products, and furniture with lead-containing paint. In 2008, the federal government banned lead in most children's products. The federal government currently bans lead in excess of 100 ppm by weight in most children's products.

For More Information

The National Lead Information Center

Learn how to protect children from lead poisoning and get other information about lead hazards on the Web at epa.gov/safewater and hud.gov/lead, or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)**.

EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline

For information about lead in drinking water, call **1-800-426-4791**, or visit epa.gov/lead for information about lead in drinking water.

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Hotline

For information on lead in toys and other consumer products, or to report an unsafe consumer product or a product-related injury, call **1-800-638-2772**, or visit CPSC's website at cpsc.gov or saferproducts.gov.

State and Local Health and Environmental Agencies

Some states, tribes, and cities have their own rules related to lead-based paint. Check with your local agency to see which laws apply to you. Most agencies can also provide information on finding a lead abatement firm in your area, and on possible sources of financial aid for reducing lead hazards. Receive up-to-date address and phone information for your state or local contacts on the Web at epa.gov/safewater, or contact the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD**.

Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access any of the phone numbers in this brochure through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at **1-800-877-8339**.

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Regional Offices

The mission of EPA is to protect human health and the environment. Your Regional EPA Office can provide further information regarding regulations and lead protection programs.

Region 1 (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100, OES 05-4
Boston, MA 02109-3912
(888) 372-7341

Region 2 (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 2
2890 Woodbridge Avenue
Building 205, Mail Stop 225
Edison, NJ 08837-3679
(732) 321-6671

Region 3 (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, DC, West Virginia)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 814-2088

Region 4 (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 4
AFC Tower, 12th Floor, Air, Pesticides & Toxics
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 562-8998

Region 5 (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 5 (DT-8J)
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3666
(312) 886-7836

Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and 66 Tribes)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, 12th Floor
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
(214) 665-2704

Region 7 (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 7
11201 Renner Blvd.
WWPD/TOPE
Lenexa, KS 66219
(800) 223-0425

Region 8 (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 312-6966

Region 9 (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 9 (CMD-4-2)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 947-4280

Region 10 (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington)

Regional Lead Contact
U.S. EPA Region 10
Solid Waste & Toxics Unit (WCM-128)
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 553-1200

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

The CPSC protects the public against unreasonable risk of injury from consumer products through education, safety standards activities, and enforcement. Contact CPSC for further information regarding consumer product safety and regulations.

CPSC

4330 East West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814-4421
1-800-638-2772
cpsc.gov or saferproducts.gov

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. Contact HUD's Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control for further information regarding the Lead Safe Housing Rule, which protects families in pre-1978 assisted housing, and for the lead hazard control and research grant programs.

HUD

451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 8236
Washington, DC 20410-3000
(202) 402-7698
hud.gov/offices/lead/

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U. S. EPA Washington DC 20460
U. S. CPSC Bethesda MD 20814
U. S. HUD Washington DC 20410

EPA-747-K-12-001
June 2017

IMPORTANT!

Lead From Paint, Dust, and Soil in and Around Your Home Can Be Dangerous if Not Managed Properly

- Children under 6 years old are most at risk for lead poisoning in your home.
- Lead exposure can harm young children and babies even before they are born.
- Homes, schools, and child care facilities built before 1978 are likely to contain lead-based paint.
- Even children who seem healthy may have dangerous levels of lead in their bodies.
- Disturbing surfaces with lead-based paint or removing lead-based paint improperly can increase the danger to your family.
- People can get lead into their bodies by breathing or swallowing lead dust, or by eating soil or paint chips containing lead.
- People have many options for reducing lead hazards. Generally, lead-based paint that is in good condition is not a hazard (see page 10).

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Lead Safe Cuyahoga

Target Cities

Bratenahl
Brooklyn
Brooklyn Hts.
Brook Park
Cleveland Hts.
Cuyahoga Hts.
East Cleveland
Euclid
Fairview Park
Garfield Hts.
Lakewood
Linndale
Maple Hts.
Newburgh Hts.
Parma
Rocky River
Shaker Hts.
South Euclid
Warrensville Hts.

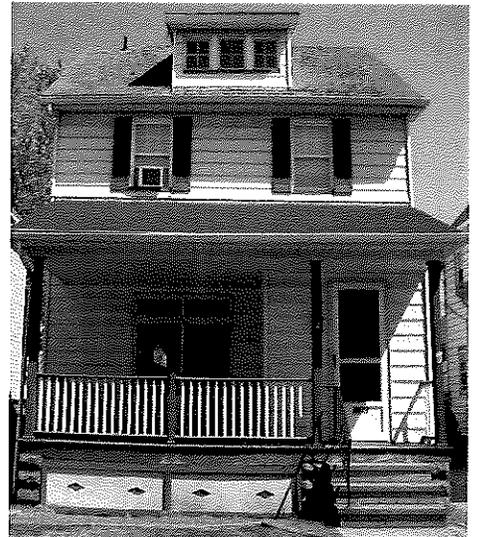
What? Free Home Repairs

Who? Owners or Renters
in target cities with children
5 years of age or younger
and qualify by income

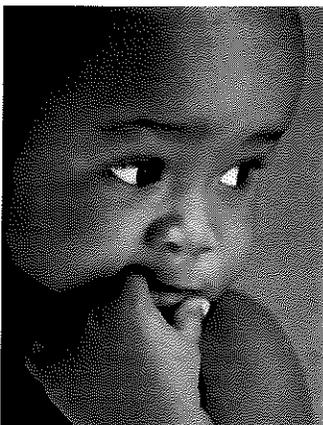
How Much? Up to \$8,000*

What may get fixed?
Windows, doors, porches
and the outside of the house

Call: 216-201-2000



*Landlords are required to pay a *minimum* of
\$500 towards the cost of repairs



Protect Your Child from Lead

Lead is a poison. When it gets into a child's body it can harm their brain and cause learning and behavior problems. Many homes built before 1978 may have paint that contains lead.

Testing: To have your child tested for lead, contact our clinic at:
216-201-2041

Cleveland residents, call the Community Development office at: 216-664-2045

CCBH-LSC-10/15-1

Cuyahoga County Confirmed Elevated Blood Lead Levels (EBLs) for Children < 6 years of age January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017										≥5ug/dl EBL		≥10ug/dl EBL	
Municipalities	Total Tested	Blood Level (ug/dl)								Total		Total	
		5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-69	70+	#	%	#	%
Entire County	23,315	1,316	364	138	75	52	8	10	1	1,964	8.4%	648	2.8%
First Ring	7,445	246	70	27	11	14	3	0	0	371	5.0%	125	1.7%
Outer Ring	3,810	32	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	38	1.0%	6	0.2%
Ohio	169,547	3,313			1,371				23	4,707	2.8%	1,394	0.8%
Municipalities with ≥100 Tests													
Bay Village	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Beachwood	134	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Bedford	186	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1.6%	1	0.5%
Bedford Heights	188	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1.6%	0	0.0%
Berea	107	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.9%	0	0.0%
Broadview Heights	139	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Brooklyn	144	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4.2%	1	0.7%
Brook Park	186	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2.2%	0	0.0%
Cleveland	11,991	1,033	290	108	64	38	5	10	1	1,549	12.9%	516	4.3%
Cleveland Heights	900	44	12	5	3	2	2	0	0	68	7.6%	24	2.7%
East Cleveland	546	63	20	10	3	5	1	0	0	102	18.7%	39	7.1%
Euclid	1,150	21	3	3	2	1	0	0	0	30	2.6%	9	0.8%
Fairview Park	142	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.7%	0	0.0%
Garfield Heights	627	25	7	2	2	3	0	0	0	39	6.2%	14	2.2%
Lakewood	725	29	11	4	0	2	0	0	0	46	6.3%	17	2.3%
Lyndhurst	193	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.5%	0	0.0%
Maple Heights	571	11	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	17	3.0%	6	1.1%
Mayfield Heights	243	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.6%	1	0.4%
Middleburg Heights	160	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1.9%	1	0.6%
North Olmsted	228	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.4%	0	0.0%
North Royalton	161	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.6%	0	0.0%
Parma	1,028	9	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	13	1.3%	4	0.4%
Parma Heights	298	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.3%	0	0.0%
Richmond Heights	155	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Rocky River	154	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1.3%	1	0.6%
Seven Hills	106	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Shaker Heights	453	11	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	16	3.5%	5	1.1%
Solon	130	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
South Euclid	378	6	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	11	2.9%	5	1.3%
Strongsville	230	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	2.2%	1	0.4%
University Heights	315	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	1.9%	1	0.3%
Warrensville Heights	359	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	3.3%	0	0.0%
Westlake	145	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Municipalities with < 100 Tests¹													
Bentleyville	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Bratenah	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Brecksville	68	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Brooklyn Heights	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Chagrin Falls Township	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Chagrin Falls	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cuyahoga Heights	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Gates Mills	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Glenwillow	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Highland Heights	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Hunting Valley	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Independence	72	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.4%	0	0.0%
Linddale	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Mayfield Village	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Moreland Hills	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Newburgh Heights	41	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	9.8%	0	0.0%
North Randall	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Oakwood	33	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	6.1%	1	3.0%
Olmsted Falls	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Olmsted	84	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Orange	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Pepper Pike	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Valley View	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Walton Hills	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Highland Hills	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Woodmere	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Unable to Code	66	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	9.1%	1	1.5%

¹Municipalities/Neighborhoods with < 100 tests performed may produce unreliable estimates.

**Cell value blinded to protect confidentiality (Denominator-Numerator < 10)

Source: Data analyzed by Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics at The Cuyahoga County Board of Health.

Original data obtained through the Ohio Department of Health's Ohio Healthy Homes Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

Revised 01/10/2019

CUYAHOGA COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

Lakewood Rate Comparison

