

LFNJ Community Hubs Working to Make New Jersey Lead-Free



These grassroots organizations coordinate locally tailored efforts to educate and empower communities.



Join Us!

The Lead-Free New Jersey collaborative seeks to eliminate racial and economic inequities by focusing on legacy lead hazards in low-income communities and/or communities of color, while creating the conditions for children to be free from lead poisoning statewide.

We Need You!

The coronavirus pandemic exacerbated New Jersey's lead crisis since many well-child visits were cancelled in 2020 and 2021.

Unfortunately, that means 20% fewer New Jersey children received their scheduled annual lead test. Our work needs YOU to help us Get the Lead Out once and for all.



Lead-Free New Jersey's Committees

The Housing Policy team is working to support policies eliminating housing-related lead hazards, increasing awareness and property-owner accountability.



The Water Policy Team works to identify and support policies eliminating lead hazards in drinking water.

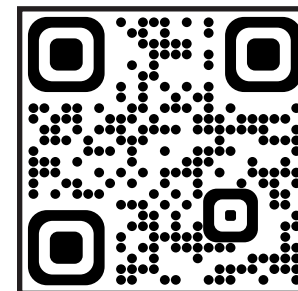


Advocacy Coordinating team determines which strategies would be best at the state and local level to bring awareness and action on making NJ lead-free.



Join our collaborative to work at the state or local level to increase awareness and advocate for policies that prioritize solutions.

Become a member

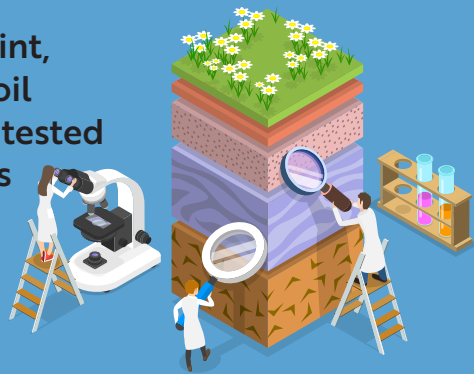


Lead-Free New Jersey (LFNJ) is committed to safeguarding the children of our state of from preventable lead poisoning due to paint, water, products and soil.

All the work of LFNJ begins with the clear understanding that **"THERE IS NO SAFE LEVEL OF LEAD EXPOSURE."**

To ensure remediation of lead in paint, water and soil from homes, schools, and childcare centers, New Jersey must prioritize funding solutions, especially in historically overburdened environmental justice communities that already bear a disproportionate risk of lead exposure.

Lead in paint, water or soil should be tested and buyers informed about the risks.



New Jersey needs robust data collection and sharing between agencies to provide the most accurate information guiding prevention and treatment solutions.

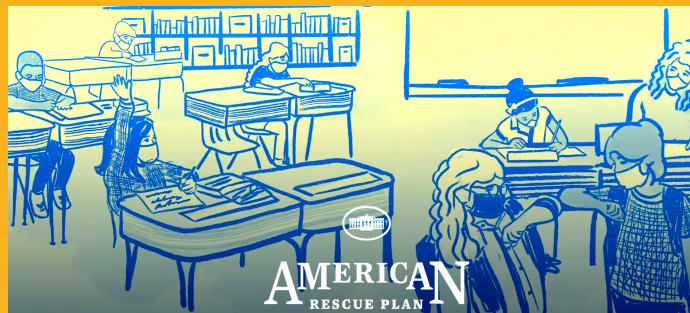


Since children are most frequently poisoned by lead paint and dust from homes built before 1978, LFNJ is working with community partners to increase local knowledge and at the state level to pass legislation making the disclosure, testing, and remediation of lead a top priority.

Renters should know if their new home has a lead risk.



Families across New Jersey, especially in high-risk areas, should know about available testing, treatment, and remediation options.



New Jersey leaders at the state and local levels can allocate federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act for lead awareness, education, remediation and testing.



KEY LEGISLATIVE ACTION GOALS FOR 2022-2023

These requests are critical to protecting young children, who are particularly vulnerable to the ravaging effects of lead contamination.

Allocate \$600 million from NJ's federal American Rescue Plan funds to remediate lead in homes, replace lead service lines, and educate residents.

Lead-Free New Jersey recommends funds be split with \$300 million for whole-home remediation, focusing on lead-based paint, interior plumbing, and soil remediation in low-to-moderate-income housing and \$300 million for lead line replacement, prioritizing low-income communities that have a large number of lead service lines.

Free lead in drinking water tests for state-regulated childcare programs

Lead-Free New Jersey proposes legislation authorizing and funding annual testing of state-regulated childcare programs operating from facilities with lead service lines. LFNJ recommends a health-based approach to outreach and education for eligible facilities.

Creation of dedicated childcare facility healthy drinking water fund

Lead-Free New Jersey proposes appropriation of funds to be managed by the Department of Children and Families for the full management of costs for communications, staff training, lead testing, and removal of lead service lines for state-regulated childcare programs operating in facilities with lead service lines.

Lead-certified filters in rental properties

For the many state-regulated childcare programs which are run out of rental properties, Lead-Free New Jersey seeks legislation which would hold landlords accountable for either agreeing to the water utility's offer to remove the property's lead service line or providing lead-certified filters on taps used for drinking or cooking until the lead service line is removed.

Reduce lead action level: childcare facilities and schools

As there is no safe level of lead exposure, Lead-Free New Jersey is seeking legislation directing the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to take a health-focused approach to lead level monitoring and develop regulations to reduce the existing lead action limit from 15 parts per billion (ppb) to 5ppb for childcare facilities and schools.

In the FY23 budget, New Jersey allocated \$170 million dollars for lead paint remediation and \$300 million to water infrastructure upgrades, ideally including lead service line removal. While an incredible first steps, these funds must be supplemented to truly have transformational change.