

LEAD-FREE



Facts About Lead in the Home

THERE IS NO SAFE LEVEL OF LEAD EXPOSURE



Any home built before 1978 may have lead-based paint, producing dust and paint chips. This creates serious health concerns, especially for small children.

Babies and toddlers, frequently at floor level, are vulnerable to lead poisoning if they ingest lead paint chips or regularly inhale lead dust.

Even at minimal levels of exposure, lead can cause decreased intelligence, attention and learning difficulties, speech and hearing problems, slowed growth, nervous system disorders, and behavioral problems.

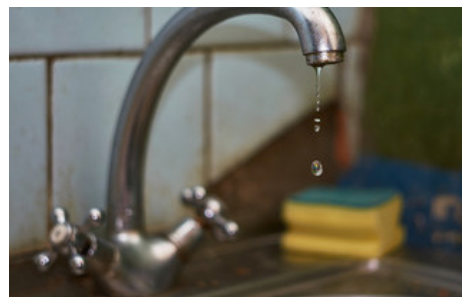


It is important for homes built before 1986 to have paint and water tested for lead.

Children should be tested for lead exposure at age one and two, and then annually, if exposure is suspected.



In addition to lead paint, toxic exposure can come from lead pipes or fixtures delivering drinking water, improperly stored



lead acid batteries, lead in vintage drinking glasses and ceramics, as well as some imported toys, cosmetics, and spices.

Lead-Free New Jersey is committed to educating and empowering residents and stakeholders to develop a comprehensive suite of solutions for the remediation of lead in paint, water, and soil from homes, schools and childcare centers. **Join us to GET THE LEAD OUT.**



TIPS FOR PREVENTING LEAD EXPOSURE IN THE HOME

- Test all homes built before 1978 for lead paint and use a EPA certified RRP (renovation, repairs or painting) inspector for remodeling work.
- Clean windowsills, floors and carpets regularly to prevent build-up of dust or paint chips.
- Use lead-free food storage and drinkware.
- Run tap water for 30 seconds to clear the pipes and use cold water to for baby formula, drinking and cooking.
- Prevent tracking in lead from outside by leaving shoes by the door.
- Be mindful of jobs or hobbies that might expose work clothes to lead dust.



- Wash children's hands before eating or drinking or after playing on the floor or outside.

TIPS FOR CLEANING HOMES WITH LEAD PAINT

Regular cleaning is recommended. The most effective method for removing dust combines vacuuming and wet wiping.

Be sure to include floors, walls, shelves, counter tops, tables, window sills, handles & knobs, vents, dishes, hard toys, floor mats, seating, etc.

- Clean surfaces starting from high to low.
- Be sure to wear protective equipment such as gloves and a mask.
- Be sure to remove children and pets before cleaning lead dust.
- Pregnant women should not clean lead contaminated dust.

Use a wet cloth to trap dust from window sills, radiators, air vents, air return registers, and ceiling fans.




Clean floors, stairs and carpets with a High Efficiency Particulate Air filter vacuum. Take the vacuum outside to change the bag. Bagless or canister vacuums are not safe for lead removal.


Clean area rugs with a vacuum or a washing machine, depending on size and type.



To clean uncarpeted floors, prepare 3 buckets:

 **Bucket 1**
Water and detergent

 **Bucket 2**
Clean rinse water

 **Bucket 3**
Empty bucket to collect dirty water

Step 1: Mop floors with water and detergent

Step 2: Wring out the dirty water into the empty bucket.

Step 3: Rinse floors with the clean water

Step 4: Wring out mop into dirty water bucket.

Step 5: Empty dirty water into toilet

Step 6: Dispose of used mop head in trash outside of the home.

To clean hard surfaces, wet clean with an all-purpose detergent—**not bleach**—and disposable paper towels.



Step 1: Clean surface.

Step 2: Dispose of paper towel.

Step 3: Rinse with a new paper towel.

Step 4: Dispose of dirty water in the toilet.

Step 5: Collect dirty paper towels in a garbage bag kept outside of the home.