



LEAD SAFETY TAKEAWAYS

CLEVELAND LEAD ORDINANCE

- **Any home built before 1978 is reasonably presumed to contain lead-based paint.**
Residential rental units built before 1978 must have a Lead Safe Certification from the City of Cleveland's Department of Building and Housing.
- **For more information on the Cleveland Lead Ordinance** refer to the City Division of Records Administration or contact the Lead Safe Resource Center at (833) 601-5323
www.clevelandohio.gov/city-hall/departments/building-housing/divisions/records-administration/lead-safe-certification
- **Ask your landlord:** Are you aware of the lead ordinance that all rental properties must be registered as lead-safe if the property was built before 1978?
- To find out if your home is registered with building and housing or if your landlord has a lead safe certification check your address on:
cleveland.housing.health

KNOW YOUR TENANTS RIGHTS

- Notice to Correct- you must provide the rental property owner with a 30-day notice to correct conditions/repairs.
- With your rent payment, give your rental property owner a written note stating what repairs need to be done and keep a copy for yourself.
- If after 30 days repairs are not made, you can take your rent payment downtown at the Clerk of Courts in the Justice Center and **continue paying rent on time.**
- Your landlord **MAY NOT** increase your rent, stop services, or kick you out because of the following:

- 1 **Complaining to rental property owner or a public official**
- 2 **Organizing a tenant's group**
- 3 **Depositing your rent with the clerk of courts**
- 4 **If you run into issues, reach out to:**

Legal Aid Society of Cleveland Hotline **216-432-0609**
www.lasclev.org

Cleveland Housing Court **216-664-4295**
www.clevelandhousingcourt.org

LEAD TESTING

- Every child in Cleveland, should be tested for lead poisoning at their first and second birthdays.
- If a finger or heel stick test is 3.5 or higher, the child will need another test with a blood draw.
- Schedule a lead test with a doctor today!
leadsafecle.org/residents/screening-testing-program

REMINDER: LEAD EXPOSURE OCCURS WHEN A CHILD COMES IN CONTACT WITH LEAD BY TOUCHING, INGESTING, OR BREATHING IN LEAD DUST.

PREVENTION TIPS FOR REDUCING LEAD EXPOSURE

- Wash hands and toys regularly with soap and water
 - Wash and rinse surfaces with soap and water daily
 - Sweep and wet mop at least once a week
 - Run cold water for at least 30 seconds before drinking or cooking with it
 - Do not use hot tap water for meals or drinking
 - Do not allow children and pets to play in areas with exposed soil
 - Remove shoes at the door and wipe pets' paws when they come inside
 - Give children foods with calcium, vitamin c, and iron several times a day
 - Use raised beds when gardening
 - Surfaces should be sprayed with water before scraping
 - Cover bare soil with mulch or grass
 - Make regular repairs using lead safe protocols.
 - Paint deteriorated surfaces, keep paint intact
 - Cover porches with plywood or carpet
 - Reduce contaminated dust using HEPA vacuum, two bucket washing and rinsing method
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MYTHBUSTERS

MYTH: EATING PAINT CHIPS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET LEAD POISONING

While eating paint chips or chewing on objects that have lead paint are obvious ways a child can be poisoned by lead, they only have to breathe lead dust to become poisoned. Toys that have come into contact with lead dust can also poison a child when put in the mouth.

MYTH: LOW LEVELS OF LEAD ARE HARMLESS

The truth is that even very low levels of lead in a child's blood can create long-term developmental problems. There are no safe levels once it is in the bloodstream.

MYTH: LEAD POISONING IS NOT A PROBLEM ANYMORE

It's true that lead-based paint is no longer available to the general public, but that doesn't mean lead poisoning isn't a very real problem. As lead-based paint gets older, it begins to peel and chip. Old lead-based paint also creates dust that can be inhaled or ingested and lead to lead poisoning in children and adults.

MYTH: ONLY CHILDREN ARE AT RISK FROM LEAD POISONING

Speaking of adults, children are not the only ones who are at risk for lead poisoning. It's true that children are especially vulnerable to the toxicity of lead, but adult health can also be compromised by lead poisoning. For example, exposure among adults can result in reproductive complications. Even if you don't have children in your home, check for lead hazards. Talk with your doctor if you think this applies to you.

MYTH: WATER THAT COMES FROM LEAD PIPES IS THE MOST COMMON SOURCE OF LEAD POISONING

Research has shown that most of the water in Cleveland is relatively safe in terms of lead and that the primary sources of lead contamination continue to be lead paint, dust, and lead in soil.