



Protect Your Family from Lead at Your Home

For residents of Chicago's Pilsen and Little Village Neighborhoods

Eating or swallowing soil that contains lead is a common source of lead exposure. Children can be exposed to lead when they put their hands, toys or other items covered with lead dust into their mouths.

To lower your family's exposure to possible lead at your home, follow these simple steps:

- ✔ **Protect your family from exposure to lead in your yard.**
 - Have children play on grass or in areas covered with clean mulch, wood chips or sand.
 - Keep children from playing in bare dirt.
 - Cover bare dirt with grass, bushes or 4 to 6 inches of clean wood chips, mulch, soil or sand.
 - Keep windows closed on windy days to reduce lead dust from soil being blown inside.
- ✔ **Protect your family from lead-based paint.**
 - Keep your family, especially young children, away from areas where paint is peeling or chipping, such as old porches, fences, or houses.
 - Do not try to remove lead paint yourself unless you have been trained to follow lead-safe work practices. Hire a professional lead specialist who follows lead-safe work practices.
 - If you paint over lead-based paint, use special paint that will seal in the old paint.
- ✔ **Keep children's hands and toys clean.**
 - Wash children's hands before they eat any food if they have been playing outside.
 - When eating outdoors, always eat in an area where there is no bare soil.
 - Do not let your children put toys, dirty hands, paint chips, or other things that might have lead dust on them into their mouths.

Get your child tested for lead poisoning today!



- *Most lead poisoned children do not act or look sick.*
- *The only way to know if your child has lead poisoning is to have a blood lead test.*
- *Children 6 years and younger are more likely to have lead poisoning.*
- *To get your child tested contact your doctor's office or call the Chicago Dept. of Public Health at (312) 747-5323.*

Questions about lead?

If you have questions call the Chicago Department of Public Health or the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry.

**City of Chicago
Lead Hotline
(312) 747-LEAD (5323)**

**ATSDR, Region 5 (Chicago)
(312) 886-0840**

**U.S EPA, Region 5
David Turpin, Lead Program
(312) 886-7836**



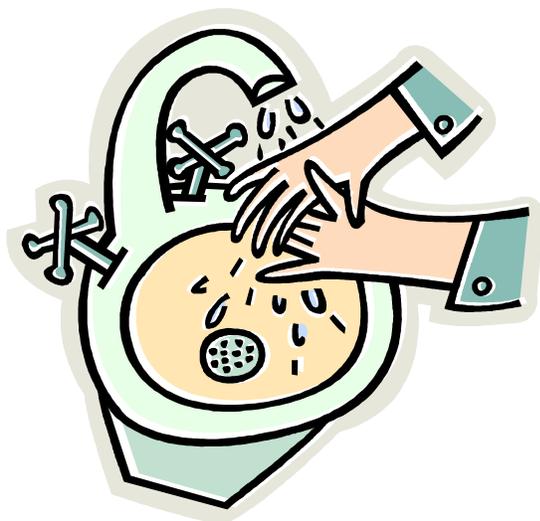
Useful Websites:

<http://www.cityofchicago.org> (search Lead)

<http://www.epa.gov/lead/>

<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/>

<http://www.idph.state.il/envhealth/factsheets/leadsoil.htm>



ATSDR is a public health agency and developed this flier.