

Information Kit

**National Lead Poisoning
Prevention Week**

October 19–25,
2025

Healthy Communities Start With Lead-Safe Homes



**Get the
Facts**



**Get Your
Child Tested**



**Get Your
Home Tested**



#LeadFreeKids
#NLPPW2025



What is National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week?

Each year, **National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (NLPPW)** brings together individuals, communities, organizations, industry, and state, Tribal, territorial, and local governments to reduce childhood exposure to lead by increasing lead poisoning prevention awareness and education.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) have collaborated to create comprehensive resources for communities. This Information Kit provides everything partners need to organize impactful activities and events that extend awareness beyond NLPPW itself.

NLPPW 2025 Takes Place October 19–25!

Lead poisoning remains a serious threat to children's health. According to HUD and CDC estimates, **3.3 million U.S. families with a child under age 6 live in homes with conditions that could expose their children to lead-based paint hazards.** Even very low levels of lead in children's blood are linked to negative effects on intellect, concentration, behavior, and academic achievement. The NLPPW theme for 2025 is “**Healthy Communities Start With Lead-Safe Homes,**” focusing on three key actions:



Learn about
lead hazards
in your environment



Ensure early
detection through a
blood lead test



Identify and address
potential lead sources

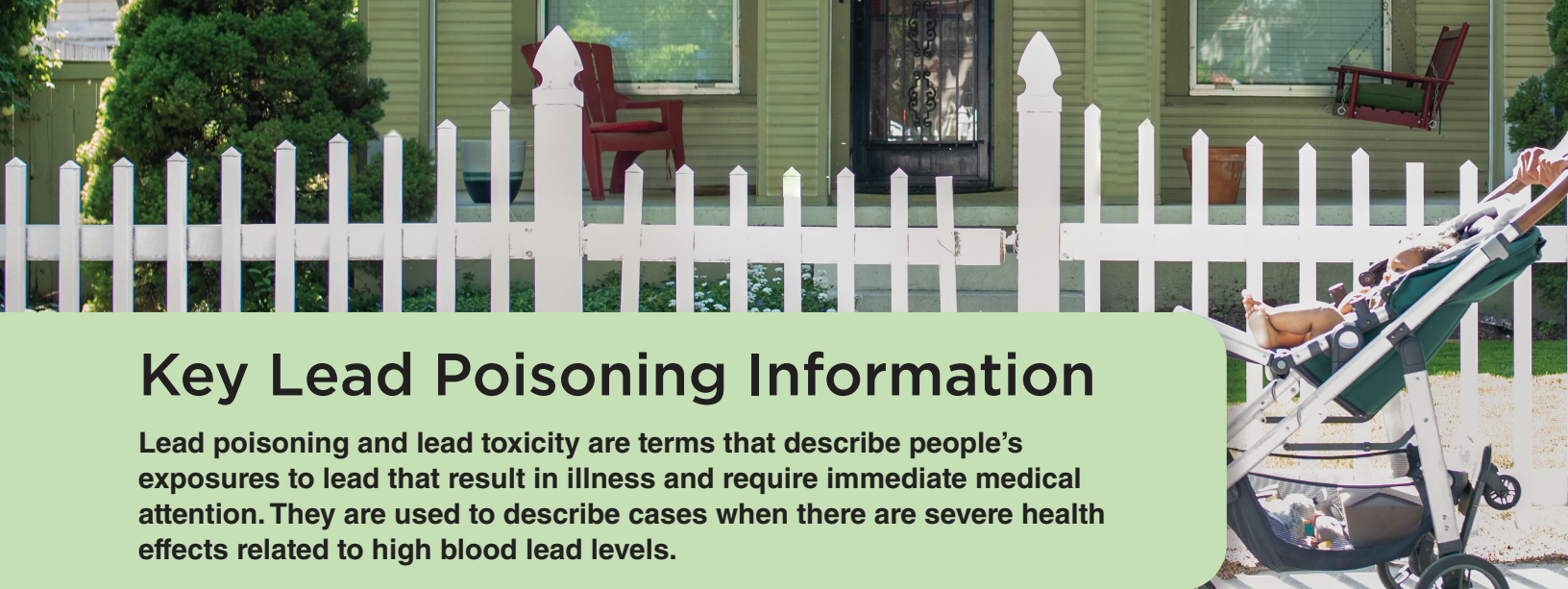
We invite you to join us this NLPPW to raise awareness about lead poisoning prevention in your community! Together, we can create safer environments where every child has the opportunity to grow and thrive.

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Some may think lead-based paint poisoning simply went away years ago. It didn't.



Key Lead Poisoning Information

Lead poisoning and lead toxicity are terms that describe people's exposures to lead that result in illness and require immediate medical attention. They are used to describe cases when there are severe health effects related to high blood lead levels.

- **Even low levels of lead in the blood can negatively impact a child's health and should be viewed as a concern.** Understanding lead's dangers and sources is the first step in protecting your family. Lead is highly toxic, especially to developing minds and bodies. Even small amounts can potentially cause:
 - Delayed growth and development
 - Lower IQ and learning difficulties
 - Brain and nervous system damage
 - Hearing, speech and behavioral problems
- **Children younger than 6 years of age are particularly vulnerable to lead exposure.** This is because their bodies are still developing and growing rapidly. Young children also tend to put their hands or other objects that may be contaminated with lead dust into their mouths.
- About **3.3 million American households with children younger than 6 years old** have lead exposure hazards from lead in deteriorated paint, dust, or soil.
- **Lead may be in items made in other countries and imported into the United States.** Lead can also be found in products made in the United States, although less likely than products made abroad. Some examples of products that may contain lead are listed here.
 - Toys
 - Painted furniture
 - Metal or plastic jewelry
 - Health remedies
 - Foods, spices, and candies
 - Cosmetics, powders, or make-up used in religious and cultural practices
 - Lead-glazed pottery or porcelain, crystal glassware and heirloom collectibles
 - Imported aluminum cookware
- **Some children are at a greater risk for lead exposure**, including those who are:
 - Living with adults whose jobs or hobbies involve working with lead
 - Living in poorly maintained homes or apartments built before 1978

Healthy communities start with lead-safe homes – spread the word using the messages below!



Get the Facts

- **Lead can be found inside and outside the home. About half of the homes in the United States built before 1978 have lead-based paint.** Lead from cracked or chipped lead-based paint, paint chips, and dust can pose serious health hazards, particularly to young children and pregnant women.
- **Adults and children can get lead into their bodies,** such as the following:
 - Breathing in lead dust (especially during activities such as building renovations, repairs, painting, or from hobbies or jobs).
 - Swallowing lead dust that settles on food, food preparation surfaces, floors, windowsills, and other places.
 - Eating paint chips or soil that contain lead.
 - Playing outdoors on artificial turf that contains lead or on playground equipment that contains lead-based paint. Learn more from EPA about **how to reduce exposures to lead from playgrounds**.
- **The most common sources of lead in drinking water** are lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures. Use EPA's **Protect Your Tap Guide** to find out whether you have lead pipes in your home.
- Lead may also be **brought into the home on work clothes, shoes, hair, and pets.**



Get Your Child Tested

- **A blood test is the best way to find out if a child has lead poisoning.** Lead poisoning may not have visible signs or symptoms and many affect children look and act healthy. Talk to your child's healthcare provider about getting a blood lead test if there's any possibility of exposure.
- **Act early to get your child tested for lead.** Children's blood lead levels tend to increase from 6 to 12 months of age and tend to peak at 18 to 24 months of age.
- **Blood lead tests are required for the following groups:**
 - Children at 12 and 24 months enrolled in Medicaid.
 - Children between 24 and 72 months enrolled in Medicaid with no record of a previous blood lead test.
- **Blood lead tests are recommended for the following groups:**
 - Children at 12 and 24 months living in areas that are at higher risk or who belong to populations that are higher-risk.
 - Children or other family members who have been exposed to lead.
 - Children who should be tested under their state or local health testing plan.
- **CDC provides these recommended actions** based on blood lead levels for children.
- **Ask your healthcare provider to explain the blood lead test results**, including how they compare to the CDC **blood lead reference value** of 3.5 micrograms per deciliter (µg/dL).
 - The blood lead reference value is the level at which a child has more lead in their blood than most U.S. children (97.5% of children ages 1 to 5 years) and is used as a guide to determine appropriate **follow-up actions** and to prevent further exposure.
 - Depending on the blood lead level, your healthcare provider may recommend finding and removing lead from your child's environment, feeding them a diet high in iron and calcium, connecting your child to early educational services, and scheduling follow-up blood testing. If your child has very high blood lead levels, medication may be recommended to help remove lead from the body.
 - Learn more information about **getting your child tested for lead**.



Get Your Home Tested

- **If you live in a home built before 1978** (when the U.S. Government banned residential lead-based paint) and are considering a home renovation, repair or painting project, you should:
 - Hire a certified inspector or risk assessor to check your home for lead-based paint or lead hazards.
 - › A **lead-based paint inspection** tells you if your home has lead-based paint and where it is located.
 - › A **lead risk assessment** tells you if your home currently has any lead hazards from paint, dust, or soil, and what actions you can take to address those hazards.
 - › A **combination inspection and risk assessment** tells you if your home has any lead-based paint or lead hazards and where both are located.
 - Hire a lead-safe certified professional for renovation, repair or painting – or for lead abatement to permanently address lead-based paint hazards. Find a lead-certified professional through **EPA's professional locator tool** or call the National Lead Information Center at 1 (800) 424-LEAD [5323] (TTY 711).
- **If your home has had a lead abatement or receives federal housing assistance and work was done to reduce lead hazards**, then clearance activities must take place once the work is completed. Starting on January 12, 2026, cleanup activities must be conducted until clearance testing indicates that lead dust levels are below the following action levels (or the relevant state or local levels in place):
 - 5 micrograms per square foot ($\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$) for floors, including carpeted floors
 - 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for interior windows sills
 - 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for window troughs
- **If you rent**, landlords of homes built pre-1978 are required to disclose any known information about the presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the home or building before you commit to the lease under the **Lead Disclosure Rule**.
- **If you are buying a house**, the sellers are required to disclose before you commit to the sale.
- To **find out for certain if there is lead in your drinking water**, have your water tested. Contact your local health department or water company to find out about testing your water.

Ideas for Awareness-Raising Activities

Transform awareness into action with community engagement strategies. Choose activities that align with your resources and community needs.

General

- Host lead poisoning prevention webinars or workshops featuring local experts and community partners.
- Integrate lead poisoning prevention activities into existing events like health fairs or community festivals.
- Include lead poisoning prevention activities during events for parents at child care and early learning centers.
- Provide educational materials to local businesses, local home improvement stores, remodeling companies, home inspectors, real estate developers, and your local Chamber of Commerce and ask them to incorporate lead poisoning and lead exposure prevention content into their customer communications.
- Connect with schools to establish student community service projects and internships focused on lead prevention.
- Raise awareness on social media!
 - Launch social media campaigns using #NLPPW2025, #LeadFreeKids, and custom community hashtags.
 - Host live Q&A sessions with experts on Facebook, Instagram or community platforms.
 - Create shareable content that partners can amplify through their networks.

Healthcare Provider

- During NLPPW, set aside at least one day to provide free blood lead testing for children younger than 6 years old who are at higher risk for lead exposure. Testing can take place at clinics, healthcare facilities, public health departments, or hospitals.
- Distribute lead educational materials, especially in communities with many pre-1978 homes.
- Train healthcare staff on lead exposure health effects and treatment protocols.
- Host a healthy cooking demonstration, featuring healthy recipes that include calcium, iron and Vitamin C, to promote a nutritious diet. To get started, check out EPA's **Foods that Contain Calcium, Iron & Vitamin C** for an ingredient list.
- Offer a community webinar on the importance of lead screening and testing.



Community Leadership

- Issue press releases and public announcements highlighting local lead hazards and prevention efforts.
 - *Sample script: Everyone deserves a safe and healthy home! As a community leader, I support efforts to reduce lead exposure in our communities, ensuring healthy homes and safe drinking water. Join me in raising awareness this National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week.*
- Speak about lead hazard prevention at a local community event, activity, or town hall.
- Share NLPPW information and content with the communities you serve, and with the leaders that represent them.
- Develop a plan to address lead in your community using EPA's **Local Lead Action Plan Guide**.
- Educate property owners about their responsibilities when leasing pre-1978 housing and consider partnering with your local health department or Office of the Attorney General to support related outreach.

Business

- Host workshops at your local home improvement and hardware stores on using lead-safe work practices when conducting do-it-yourself (DIY) home remodeling and renovation projects. You can use EPA's **Lead-Safe Renovations for DIYers** webpage as a resource.
- Host an informational workshop for new and existing contractors on state regulations, industry standards and the process for becoming an EPA certified lead-safe contractor.
- Publicize NLPPW events and activities on your community boards.
- Post event notices and other messaging in retail establishments leading up to and during NLPPW.

Drive Action with Digital Materials

A common visual identity is important for increasing NLPPW's impact. These materials may be customized to include your organization's logo(s) and information. When creating NLPPW materials for your community or organization, be sure to use the NLPPW icons, flyers, key messages, and web banners to tie your local efforts to the national effort.

All of this information and materials are available in English and Spanish at epa.gov/lead/nlppw.



Icons

Lead-Free Kids Icons are available in two color schemes (white with blue background or blue with transparent background).



Flyers

8.5" x 11" flyers are available as PDFs and can be printed in larger formats.

The **"For Translation" PowerPoint file** can be used to create flyers in additional languages used in your community.



Web Banners

Web banners are available in **high-resolution horizontal (630 x 160) and vertical (160 x 600) orientation**.

The icons, flyers and web banners are also available in **Arabic, Chinese Simplified, Chinese Traditional, French, Haitian Creole, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Tagalog** and **Vietnamese**.

Engage Using Social Media

Your organization and community members are likely on social media. Promote NLPPW on your channels by using the **Sample Social Media Package**, which includes customizable content ideas and sample posts.

Additional Resources

Protect You and Your Children's Health From Lead Exposure

- **Are you pregnant? Prevent lead poisoning.** Information about lead and lead poisoning for pregnant women from CDC (and a fact sheet available in English and Spanish).
- **Fact sheets, infographics, social media images, videos and more** from CDC for childhood lead poisoning information.
- **Information about lead exposure and lead poisoning** from the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- **Know the Facts: Protect Your Child from Lead Exposure.** A fact sheet from CDC that details how to prevent lead exposure.
- **Lead workplace safety and health information** from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.
- **Lead Awareness in Indian Country: Keeping our Children Healthy! Curriculum.** Curriculum built for community leaders to help all communities protect children from potential lead exposure and lead poisoning. Also available in **Spanish**.
- **Lead Poisoning and Your Children.** A pamphlet with information for parents on protecting children from lead poisoning and reducing lead exposures that unfolds into a poster summarizing seven basic steps for parents. Also available in **Arabic, Chinese Simplified, Chinese Traditional, Dari, French, Korean, Pashto, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese**.
- **EPA Lead (Pb) Research.** Understand more about lead research and risk, related to air, drinking water, land, and children's health.

Lead in Cultural Products

- **Exposure risk through Heavy Metals in Cultural Products.** EPA webpage compiling educational and outreach materials highlighting the risks from heavy metal exposure, primarily to children and pregnant women from a variety of cultural and religious products.

Lead in the Home

- **Lead-Safe Renovations for DIYers** web page
- **Lead Disclosure Rule Fact Sheet.** EPA and HUD fact sheet outlining disclosure requirements for homebuyers, renters, property managers, landlords, real estate agents and home sellers.
- **Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right: Important Lead Hazard Information for Families, Child Care Providers, and Schools.** A document required to be provided by contractors before pre-1978 homes and child-occupied facilities are renovated. Also available in **Spanish**.

Lead in Water

- **EPA's Ground Water and Drinking Water webpage** (also available in **Spanish**).
- **EPA's Lead in Drinking Water infographic.** Learn basic information about sources of lead in drinking water, suggestions for reducing exposure and information about replacing lead service lines.

- **EPA's Consumer Tool for Identifying Point-of-Use and Pitcher Filters Certified to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water.** Consumers can consider using a drinking water filter that has been evaluated by an accredited third-party certification body to reduce lead. Also available in **Spanish**.

Lead in Soil

- **Information on how to plan and develop a soilSHOP** (Soil Screening, Health and Outreach Partnership) event in your community.

Community

- **Happy, Healthy, Lead-Free Me.** A children's book aimed at engaging children and educating parents on lead poisoning prevention and the importance of pediatric lead level testing developed by the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. The book is also available in Nepali, Spanish, Dari, Portuguese, Swahili, Chuukese, Somali and Haitian Creole.
- **Is There Lead in the Water?** A CDC children's activity book to offer parents an interactive way to talk to their kids about lead in the water.
- **Childhood Lead Exposure for Communities.** Videos for high school and community audiences on the dangers of young children being exposed to lead.

Videos

- **Healthy Homes Video Playlist.**
Compilation of 16 videos highlighting HUD best practices focusing on lead, asthma, disaster recovery, renovation and repair, and more.

Grant Opportunities

HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes has grant opportunities

to reduce the risk of lead exposure for residents, particularly children, by addressing lead hazards in pre-1978 homes and buildings that are owner-occupied and rental units with children under 6 years.

- The **Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program** funds states, Tribes, and local governments to conduct lead inspections and risk assessments of homes and buildings to identify lead and other home health hazards, the removal of lead hazards, and outreach to raise awareness about the dangers of lead exposure.
- See a list of current **Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes grantees.**

Visit **HUD's webpage** for more information about this and other HUD OLHCHH grants.

Your Efforts Make a Difference – Thank You!

CDC, EPA, and HUD thank you for joining us in promoting NLPPW. Year after year, we work together because healthy communities start with lead-safe homes.

Visit **CDC**, **EPA**, and **HUD** webpages for more information and activities during NLPPW. EPA also has information available in **Spanish**.



National Lead Information Center



The National Lead Information Center is a toll-free hotline, 1-800-424-LEAD (5323), that provides the general public and professionals with information about lead, lead hazards, and their prevention. You can request documents through its **Document Request Form**. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may call the 711 teletype service.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this document is for general use only; it does not provide any medical or legal advice. Resources listed within are not intended to be comprehensive of all resources available; non-federal resources are mentioned as examples and are not endorsed by the federal agencies that issued this document.