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Old Homes and Lead Paint Exposure to Lead in Detroit

How are lead and paint connected?

Lead used to be a common ingredient in paint that was used in homes and on children's toys. When paint made with lead chips, it releases lead into the surrounding environment. It is no longer legal to put lead in paint.⁵



Does my home have lead paint?

Today, lead paint might still be in homes that were painted before 1978. Sometimes lead paint is hidden under layers of new paint.⁵ Landlords are required to share information about any use of lead paint on their property to renters.⁶

How do I prevent exposure from lead paint?

If you think you live in a home built before 1978, you can take these steps.

- Remove any paint chips and clean areas with peeling paint weekly.⁵
- Test and treat any possible lead in your home
 - Resources for this are located on the back page.



We would like to acknowledge the Stakeholder Action Board for their contributions and expertise.

Who is most at risk and how are they affected?

There is no safe level of lead in the blood.¹



- Children under 6 years are more vulnerable to lead exposure because of their tendency to explore the world by putting things in their mouth.¹
- Women exposed to lead during or before pregnancy can have higher risk of miscarriage, stillbirth, and premature birth.¹

How can I protect myself and my community from lead in paint?

Painting over lead paint does not adequately protect you from lead exposure.

Use these resources to try and remove lead paint from your home

- Free lead paint removal for residents: See if you qualify for the Detroit LeadSafe Housing Program (<https://bit.ly/4c2gaBo>)
- Services to help families remove lead in their homes: See if you qualify for the Michigan Lead Safe Home Program (<https://bit.ly/4bQn1hO>)
- If don't qualify for the Michigan Lead Safe Home Program and need lead removal funds, contact Michigan Lead Prevention Fund (<https://bit.ly/4bQn1hO>)

What community support is available?

DLEAD Detroit Parent Group (<https://bit.ly/4c7TRKN>)



- A Facebook group to support parents and work for a lead-free Detroit
- Provides education and prevention tips for families with a child with elevated blood lead levels (<https://bit.ly/4aO6VUu>)

Lead Out Detroit: Get the Lead Out Detroit Coalition (<https://bit.ly/455peTP>)



- A coalition of Detroit community and environmental organizations supporting lead safety
- Provides lead exposure information and protection recommendations

Detroit Health Department Lead Program (<https://bit.ly/3z10IHP>)



- The Detroit Health Department has many services to help residents with health issues related to lead.
- Call the Health Department for more information: (313) 876-4000

Please see http://mleead.umich.edu/Coec_Fact_Sheets.php for the citations included in this factsheet.

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