

Common Exposure Sources

Exposure to Lead in Detroit



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for resources

The M-LEEaD Center's Community Engagement Core (CEC) increases awareness and understanding of environmental health research.

Stakeholder Advocacy Board members include:

- Community Health and Social Services
- The Detroit Health Department
- Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation
- Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice
- Eastside Community Network
- Ecology Center
- Green Door Initiative
- MDHHS
- Sierra Club
- We the People of Detroit

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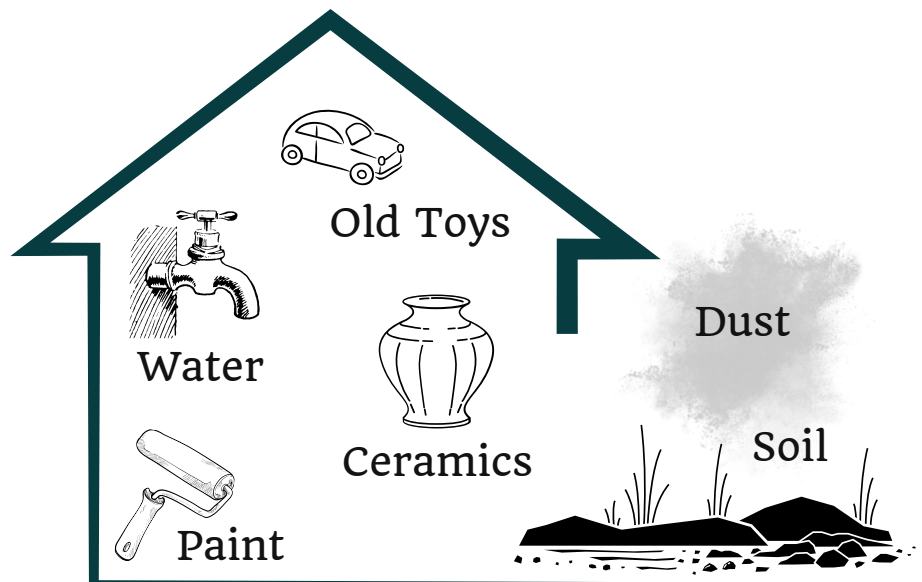
What is lead?

Lead is a metal that is naturally found on the earth, but it is toxic to humans when it enters our bodies. Even though it is toxic to humans and banned in many products, there are still ways it can enter our environment and our bodies.¹

How does lead get into our bodies?

Lead gets into our bodies when we consume anything contaminated with lead. This could be water that was transported by lead pipes, food that accidentally touched chips of lead paint, or dust that has lead particles.¹ The lead is absorbed by our blood and then circulated throughout our bodies.

What are common sources of lead exposure around my home?





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 the people around me from lead in the environment?

To protect yourself from lead exposure it is important to figure out where there is lead in your environment. You can do this by testing your home for lead.

Test your home for lead and treat any that is found.

- 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>)
- You can make an appointment for testing with the City of Detroit Lead Prevention and Intervention Program (<https://bit.ly/45al5xK>)¹⁰

What community support is available?

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



- A Facebook group to support parents and advocate 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

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

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