

# WIPEOUT LEAD!

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY FROM LEAD POISONING

Infants, children under the age of 6, and pregnant women are most at-risk for harm from lead exposure.

## WHAT ARE THE PHYSICAL EFFECTS OF LEAD POISONING?

- It damages a child's brain.
- It makes it harder to learn in school, control behavior and make decisions.
- It can cause low birth-weight babies, miscarriages and stillbirths in pregnant women.

## HOW DO CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN GET POISONED?

- Exposure to lead usually happens in homes where there is lead-based paint or unsafe levels of lead in drinking water.
- Children come into contact with lead paint chips and dust when they crawl and play on the floor.
- Children get lead in their mouths from pacifiers and toys which have been on floors where lead-based paint chips and dust are present.
- Pregnant women and children can breathe in lead dust from peeling lead-based paint.
- Exposure to imported toys, make-up, hair dyes, and foods which contain lead.

## HOW TO PREVENT EXPOSURE TO LEAD?

- Look for chipping paint and paint dust in your home (particularly around windows and on windowsills).
- Keep floors and windowsills clear of paint chips and dust. Wet mop, wipe and dust often.
- Wash children's toys and hands often, especially before eating.
- Use cold water that has been running for 30 seconds for drinking, cooking and preparing baby formula.

## HOW CAN YOU TELL IF YOU OR YOUR CHILDREN ARE LEAD-POISONED?

- The only way to tell if a child or pregnant woman is lead-poisoned is to get a blood test.
- Ask your doctor or clinic to test your children for lead at AGE ONE and again at AGE TWO.
- Pregnant women should alert their doctor if they live in a pre-1978 home with chipping paint or paint dust.

DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR HOME?

CALL THE CITY'S 311 HOTLINE!

For more info: [wipeoutlead.com](http://wipeoutlead.com) • MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN

