

KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE FROM LEAD

Some New Regulations About An Old Topic From The Village of Ridgewood Health Department

What is lead?



- Lead is a metal that can easily break down into fine dust. It is dangerous to humans if it enters the body.
- In New Jersey, children are most likely to be exposed to lead by lead-based paint in homes built before 1978. Any pre 1978 housing may contain lead-based paint.

Where else can lead be found?



- Lead can enter the body through inhalation, ingestion, and absorption.

Common sources of lead include:

- Eating non-food items containing lead
- Fishing and hunting supplies
- Glazed and/or painted pottery, tubs, and antiques
- Lead in plumbing
- Certain snacks
- Spices
- Cosmetics



How does lead affect the human body?

- There is no safe level of lead in the human body. Even at very low levels, lead can cause harm to children and adults. Health problems can include damage to the brain, kidney, and nervous system.

New Jersey Mandate

Children under the age of 6 years should be tested for lead at ages 1 and 2, or as soon as possible before the age of 6. Talk with your healthcare provider to learn about receiving a blood test.

New Law to Protect Tenants

- New Jersey law, S1147 requires any rental property in New Jersey built before 1978 be inspected for lead.
- Beginning July 22, 2022, all New Jersey rental properties that are not exempt, will be required upon their first turnover or within two years of the effective date to complete their Lead Safe Certification inspection.

Lead Prevention Tips

- Have your home inspected by a licensed lead inspector if you suspect there may be lead paint or plumbing in your home.
- Wash your hands to keep them clean from germs and lead.
- Use a damp cloth or mop to clean hard surfaces in the home. Hard surfaces can be windowsills, air vents, door frames, and others.
- HEPA-filter vacuums can be used to clean soft surfaces like curtains and couches. Do not empty the vacuum bag or filter indoors.
- A diet rich in vitamin C, iron, and calcium can help prevent lead from staying in the body.
- If you or someone you know is exposed to lead hazards, talk with a healthcare provider about ways to handle these materials safely.

New Jersey Poison Control Center: 1-800-222-1222
Village of Ridgewood Health Department: 201-670-5500, ext. 5503



For more information about lead inspections in rental units, scan the QR code.

For more information about lead poisoning prevention, scan the QR code.

