October 25-31 is National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

Each October, non-profits, city departments, and community members campaign together to raise awareness of lead poisoning in America.

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week highlights the many ways parents can reduce children’s exposure to lead in their environment and prevent its serious health effects.

We support our partners across the country to provide important information to communities on how to address lead exposure.

- Many homes built before 1978 have lead-based paint. Lead from paint, paint chips, and dust can pose serious health hazards particularly to children and pregnant women.

- Adults and children can get lead into their bodies by:
  - Breathing in lead dust (especially during activities such as renovations, repairs, or painting)
  - Swallowing lead dust that settles in food, food preparation surfaces, floors, window sills, and other places
  - Eating paint chips or soil that contains lead.

- The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures.

- Other sources of lead include some metal toys, wooden toys or furniture painted with lead-based paint, some metal-containing jewelry, and lead-glazed pottery or porcelain, some candies, spices or make-up.

- Lead may also be brought into the home on work clothes, shoes, and hair.
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.

- A simple blood test can detect lead. Consult your healthcare provider for advice on blood lead testing.

- Blood lead tests are usually recommended for:
  - Children at ages 12 and 24 months who receive Medicaid
  - Children at ages 12 and 24 months living in high risk areas or high risk populations
  - Children or other family members who have been exposed to high levels of lead
  - Children who should be tested under your state or local health screening plan.

- Ask your healthcare provider to explain the blood lead test results.

If your home was built before 1978, you can get it tested for lead-based paint by:

- A lead-based paint inspection that tells you if your home has lead-based paint and where it is located.

- A lead risk assessment that tells you if your home currently has any lead hazards from paint, dust, or soil, and where they are located.

- A combination inspection and risk assessment that tells you if your home has any lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards and where they are located.

Contact your local health department or water company to find out about testing your water.

Thank you for everything that you do to help our most vulnerable neighbors. We wish you a safe transition into this new phase of our work. Please do not hesitate to call on us anytime at (313) 924-4000, via email at info@clearcorpsdetroit.org, or through our website at www.clearcorpsdetroit.org

Find more resources at our Website

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