



## Eliminating lead poisoning is everyone's responsibility.

Lead poisoning is a serious health risk, especially to our children. Lead can cause many problems in children and adults including:

- Long-term learning and behavior issues
- Hearing loss
- Long-term health concerns like kidney damage and high blood pressure

Learn what to look for and how to make our homes and children lead safe.

Together we can end childhood lead poisoning in Monroe County.

COALITION TO  
PREVENT  
**LEAD**  
POISONING

The Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning is a nonprofit education and advocacy organization. We are dedicated to eliminating childhood lead poisoning in Monroe County. Please contact us for more information.

### Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning

c/o Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency  
1150 University Ave.  
Rochester, NY 14607  
585-224-3125  
[www.letsmakeleadhistory.org](http://www.letsmakeleadhistory.org)



 **AdCouncil**  
ROCHESTER

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# Lead poisoning.

**Get the facts.**  
Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning

[www.letsmakeleadhistory.org](http://www.letsmakeleadhistory.org)

# What are the effects of lead poisoning?



- Permanent brain damage
- Lower IQ
- Hearing loss
- Learning and behavior problems
- Damage to kidneys and other organs
- Harm to a pregnant woman's unborn baby

## HOW DO CHILDREN GET LEAD POISONING?

- Homes built before 1978 probably contain lead paint.
- Peeling or deteriorated paint creates dust. This dust settles in living areas and on toys.
- Children get lead in their bodies when they put their hands or toys in their mouths and swallow the lead dust.
- Lead hazards can come from home renovation projects, bare soil, and jewelry, pottery, candy, and cosmetics from other countries.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### Make sure your home is lead safe

- If you live or own property in the City of Rochester, call (585) 428-LEAD (5323) to request a FREE inspection for lead hazards.
- If you live outside Rochester city limits but in Monroe County, call (585) 325-7550 to request a FREE inspection for lead hazards.
- Grants may be available to make homes lead safe. Call (585) 428-LEAD or (585) 753-5087 for info.
- Use lead-safe work practices when renovating or remodeling.
- Make sure that anyone hired to do work that disturbs paint in a pre-1978 home is EPA Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) certified.
- Call (585) 753-5087 about Lead Safe Work Practices classes and EPA RRP certification before doing renovations or remodeling.
- Pregnant? Don't have remodeling work done in a pre-1978 home.

### Get your child tested

You may not be able to see the symptoms of lead poisoning. The only way to know if a child has been exposed to lead is to get a blood lead test.

- Request a blood lead test at any well-child visit up to six years old.
- Call your child's doctor and ask what your child's blood lead test results mean.
- Pregnant? Get a blood lead test too.

### Clean lead dust frequently

- Wash a child's hands and toys often, especially after playing and before eating.
- Take off your shoes when you enter your home.
- Wet wipe or mop flat surfaces and floors often with detergent and water.
- Use a vacuum with a HEPA filter to catch lead dust. Call (585) 753-5087 to borrow one from the Monroe County Health Dept.

### Make sure your child eats healthy foods

Foods high in iron and calcium can help lower your child's lead risk.

- Eat whole-grain breads, beans, tuna, and green leafy vegetables like spinach for iron.
- Drink low-fat milk and eat yogurt and cheese for calcium.

## IT'S THE LAW

### New York State Law

It's the law that all children get a blood test for lead at ONE and AGAIN at TWO years old.

### Rochester City Law

If you rent or own a home in Rochester, call (585) 428-LEAD to request a free lead inspection. You cannot be evicted for requesting a lead inspection of your home.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call (585) 224-3125 to get a free *Lead Awareness for Parents* DVD (in English, Spanish, and ASL). For more information on preventing lead poisoning, contact:

- Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning, (585) 224-3125, [www.letsmakeleadhistory.org](http://www.letsmakeleadhistory.org)
- City of Rochester Lead Program, (585) 428-LEAD (5323), [www.cityofrochester.gov/lead/](http://www.cityofrochester.gov/lead/)
- Action for a Better Community Lead Resource Ctr., (585) 325-7550
- Monroe County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, (585) 753-5087, [www.monroecounty.gov/eh-leadpoisoning.php](http://www.monroecounty.gov/eh-leadpoisoning.php)
- NYS Department of Health, [www.health.state.ny.us/environmental/lead](http://www.health.state.ny.us/environmental/lead)
- Environmental Protection Agency, [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead)
- The National Center for Healthy Housing, [www.nchh.org](http://www.nchh.org)