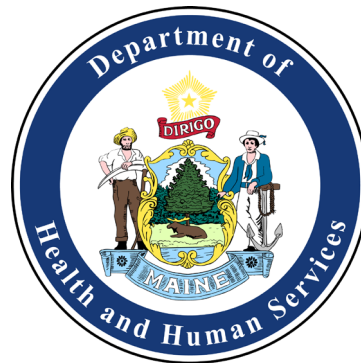


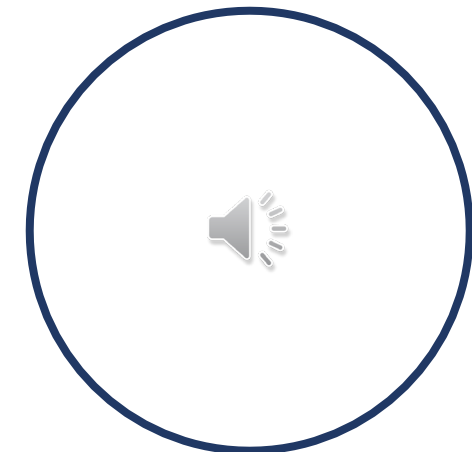
Facilitated Lead Dust Testing Refresher Training

Katie Nash, MPH

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program



Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention



Overview

1. Lead 101
2. What is Facilitated Lead Dust Testing
3. How to Complete Facilitated Lead Dust Testing
4. What Happens Next



What is Lead?

- Lead is a metal that has had numerous uses since preindustrial times
- Unlike some other metals, lead plays no role in human metabolism
- In recent years, researchers have come to understand, there is no safe level of lead in the human body
- Lead poisoning remains a top environmental threat to young children

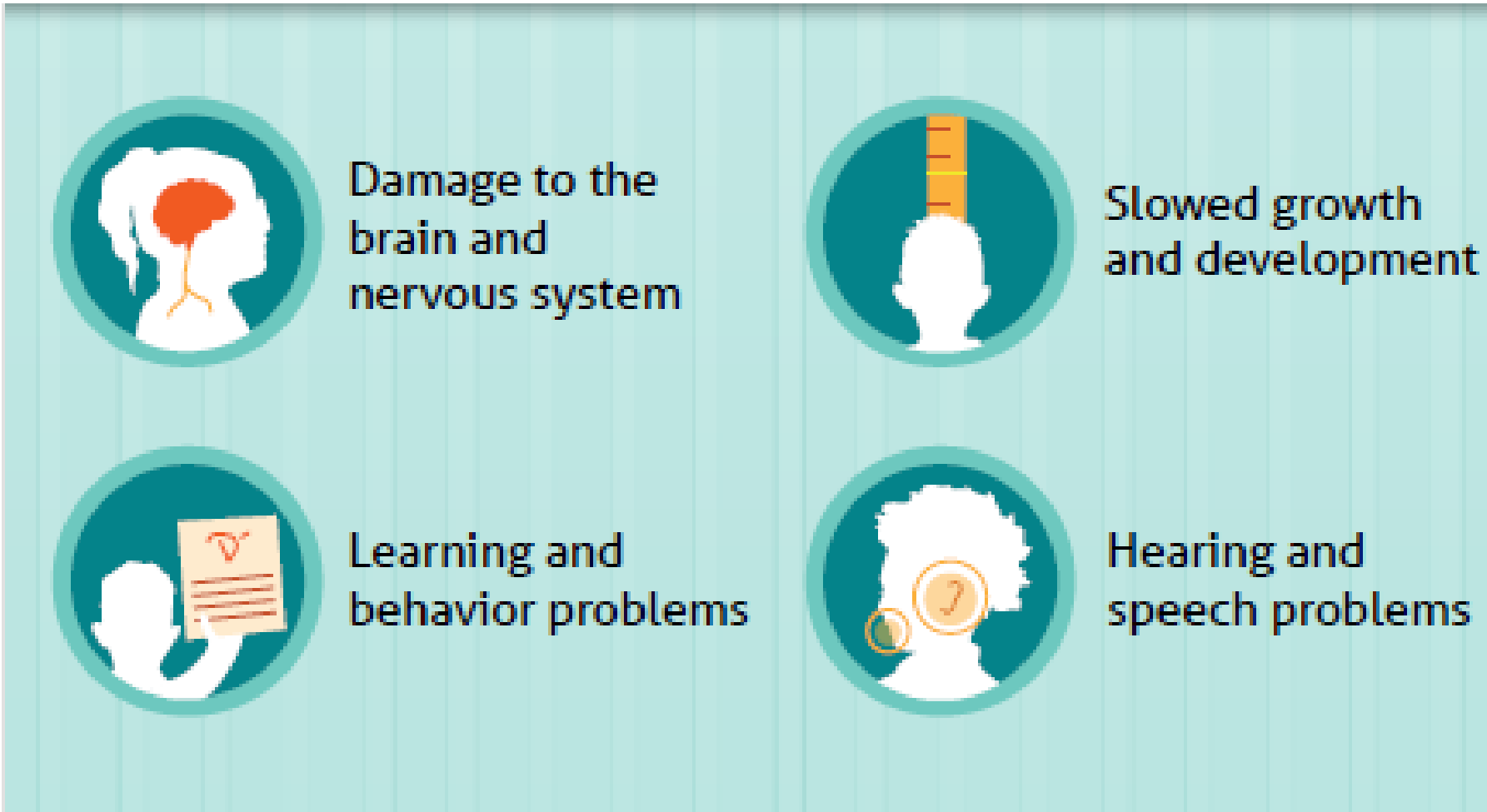


Sources of Persistent Lead in our Environment

- Lead in residential paint
 - Phased out from 1950-1978
- Lead in gasoline
 - Phased out by 1986
- Lead in connecting pipes
 - Phased out from 1920's to 1980's
- Lead solder in plumbing
 - Banned in 1986



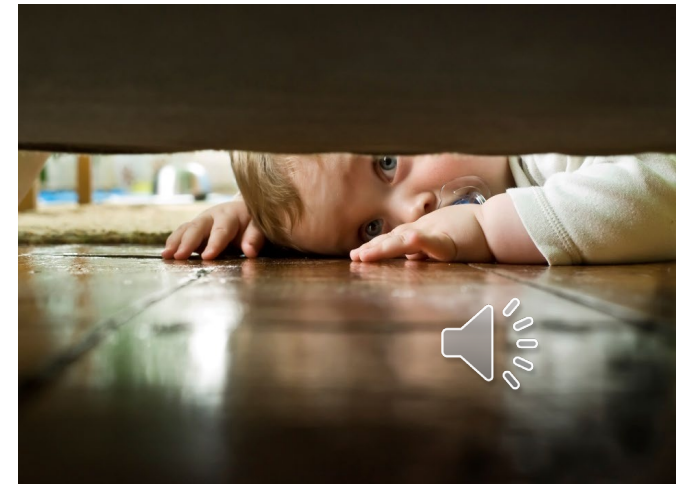
Health Effects of Lead in Children



How does Lead Poisoning Happen?

Dust from Old Lead Paint!

- Settles on floors
- Settles on window-sills
- Just takes a little bit to cause lead poisoning
- Children, especially 1- and 2-year-olds are:
 - Crawling, cruising and walking
 - Spending time on the floor
 - Discovering with their hands and mouths
 - Rapidly developing brains
 - Breathing zone closer to ground
 - Rely on others for safety and supervision
 - Food/ pacifiers on floor
 - Curiosity



Lead Dust Comes From Old Lead Paint

Chipping, peeling, flaking, disturbed paint can create lead dust

- Normal wear and tear
- Weathering
- Water damage
- Sanding or scraping during repairs or renovation



Lead dust is #1 source of lead poisoning in Maine



Approx. 500 ug of sweetener

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Children at risk for lead poisoning

Children living in homes built before 1950 are at highest risk for lead exposure. Deteriorated lead paint and resulting lead dust pose the greatest risk, but even intact paint may be a risk for some children

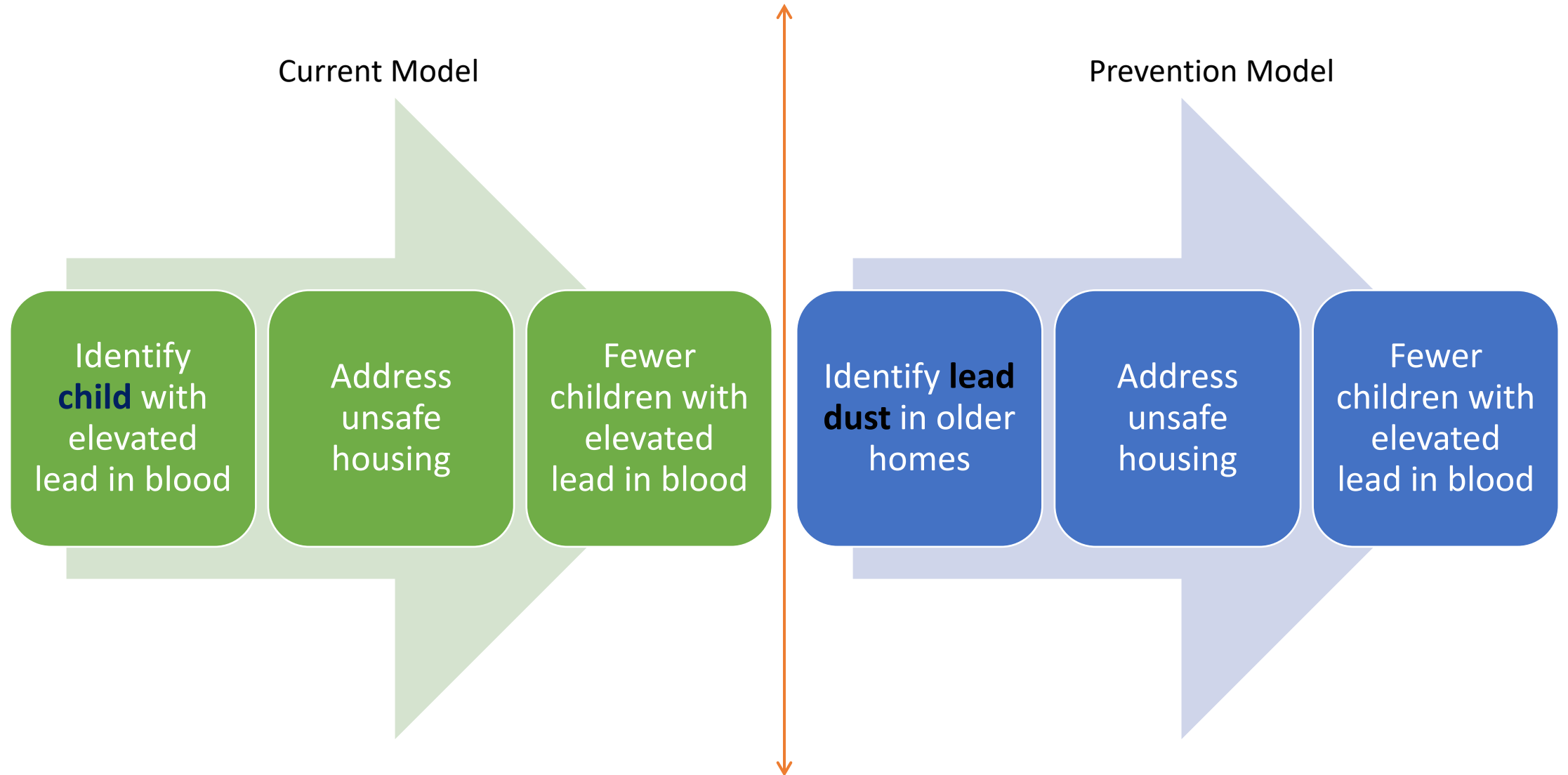


Other Sources of Lead Exposure

- Soil
- Occupational take-home lead
- Hobbies
- Antiques
- Glazed pottery
- Spices



Preventing Lead Poisoning



Lead Dust Testing with Home Visitors

- Great educational tool!
- Identifies easily accessible lead dust
- Prompts blood lead screening
- Prompts actions to make home safer



What Families Need to Know Before Testing

- It's a choice
- It can help them take action and make choice to protect their children
- Landlord may have negative reaction
- Can lead to further mandatory testing



Can a family get evicted because of a lead dust test?

- Legal right to test. Landlord cannot retaliate.
- Written lease: Must have reason to evict
- No Lease: no reason needed to evict
- Can evict for late/unpaid rent
- To fight eviction, you must go to court



Role of the Facilitator

1. Determine if clients live in housing that puts them at risk
2. Offer home lead dust test
3. Help family do test. Test takes about 10 minutes.
4. Mail completed test to lab
5. Use this video to refresh your training:

<https://bit.ly/lead-dust-test-video>



Home visitors cannot do the test for the family. Home visitor can only assist.



Lead Dust Testing with Facilitators Does Not

- Show where the lead dust is coming from
- Provide certified results
- Automatically require the landlord to remove all lead from the home



Who should do a lead dust test?

- Families with children under age 3
- Expectant parents
- Live in pre-1950 housing
- Recent renovations in pre-1950 housing
- Families who rent



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How To Do a Lead Dust Test

Step 1: Preparation

- ✓ Bring to home visit:
 - Lead dust test kit
 - Tape
 - Pen
- ✓ Have the person doing the test wash their hands
- ✓ Identify the areas to test
 - Kitchen floor (carpet okay)
 - Floor where child plays (carpet okay)
 - Windowsill



How To Do a Lead Dust Test

Step 2: Testing the Floors

- Tape template to floor
- Have the **resident**
 - Put on the glove
 - Wipe in one direction with s-shaped motion
 - Fold dirty sides in on themselves
 - Repeat wiping in opposite direction
 - Place wipe in correct tube



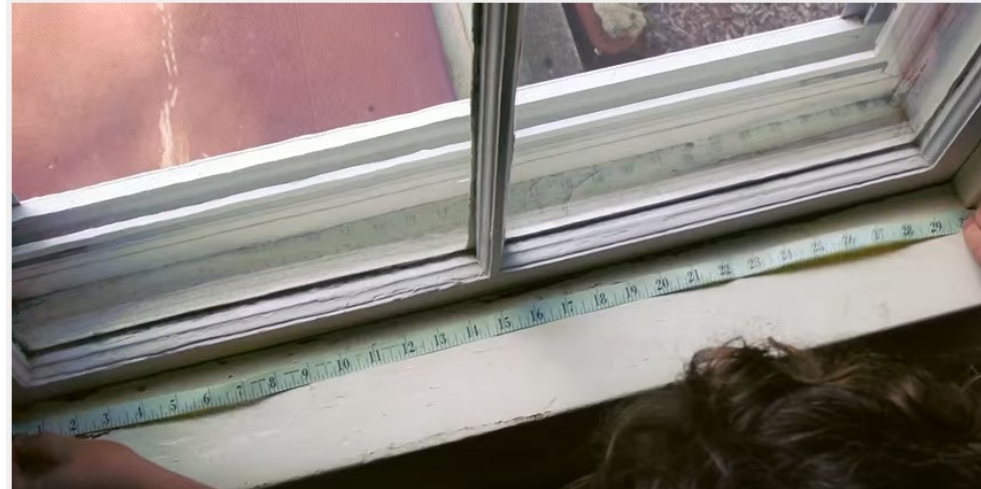
Repeat for “other” floor.



How To Do a Lead Dust Test

Step 3: Testing the Windowsill

- Choose a windowsill child can reach or will soon be able to reach
- Measure windowsill
- Have the **resident**
 - Put on the glove
 - Wipe in one direction
 - Fold dirty sides in on themselves
 - Repeat wiping in opposite direction
 - Place wipe in correct tube



The only wrong way to do the test is to not complete it!



How To Do a Lead Dust Test

Step 4: The Form

 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING LABORATORY
47 INDEPENDENCE DRIVE, AUGUSTA, ME 04333
Contact numbers if you have any questions:
TEL: 866-292-3474 (free call in Maine) or (207) 287-4311

SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
RECEIVED: _____
Initials: _____

If name is different or address is PO Box, please enter correct name/street address below:

Name: _____
Address: _____

If someone helped you test:
Name of Agency: _____
Name of Facilitator: _____

HETL Sample ID	Sample ID/Name	Sample Area	Sampling Date	Comments
	Kitchen Floor	12 inches x 12 inches		
	Other Floor (where child spends time)	12 inches x 12 inches		
	Window Sill (near where child spends time)	____ inches x ____ inches Please see window sill measurement instructions and place measurement here		

Do you own or rent this residence? ☐ Own ☐ Rent

Primary Language: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

Your Signature: _____

*By signing this, I agree to the protocol that the Maine Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program must follow, depending on the results of this home lead dust test kit.

If you rent and would like the results sent to your landlord, please provide the information below:

Landlord's Name: _____

Landlord's Address: _____

Landlord's Phone: _____

Document ID: FM-ENV-XXX

Revised March 18, 2025/ Revision 1

Name
and
Address

Your name
and
Organization

Time and Date

Language,
Phone Number,
Signature

Property Owner
Information



How To Do a Lead Dust Test

Step 5: Mailing the Kit

- Put tubes and the form in the box
- Stick on mailing label
- Tape box shut
- Put kit in mailbox



What Happens Next?

- Lab analysis
- Maine CDC gets results
- Results determine follow-up
 - All results sent by mail to resident
 - Maine CDC staff call residents with high results to talk about next steps
 - Very high results may trigger additional testing
- If tenant provided landlord contact info, results will be sent to landlord



Lead Prevention Measures

REVIEW and REINFORCE Lead prevention measures.
Keep your eyes open for hazards:

- **Frequent handwashing with soap and water**
- Wash toys weekly
- Wash pacifiers every time they fall on floor
- Discuss nutrition support that can help lead poisoned children (Iron, Vitamin C, Calcium, etc)



- Discuss need for blood test at 1&2yo
- Offer Lead prevention information
- Remind families to connect with their child's doctor to better understand lead levels

How to Clean Up Lead Dust

Lead TipSheet #2
November 2019

While lead paint can be found in houses and buildings built before 1978, most lead paint is found in homes built before 1950. Lead paint that is peeling or chipping can be a hazard. Areas where lead paint rubs, such as door frames, windows, or even floors where you walk, can produce lead dust. Lead dust can also come from home made lead dust.

Scraped Lead Paint
dust. Once you have cleaned in this way, or mop once a week.

Keep your Child Away from Lead

Lead TipSheet #5
November 2019



Here are 4 things you can do to keep your child away from lead. If you know that you have lead paint in your home or you think you might, use this tipsheet to help keep your children away from lead.

Toddlers at ages 1 and 2 are more likely to be around lead. They can get lead dust or lead paint chips into their bodies because they often put their hands, toys or other things in their mouths. They also play where lead dust may be like on floors and near window sills.

1

Keep Play Areas Clean

Think about all the places in your home where your child plays.

- See if there is peeling or chipping paint. Pick up any paint chips and throw them away.
- Wash the floor or vacuum the carpet often (use a HEPA vacuum).
- Put furniture in front of window sills with chipping paint so your child can't get to them.
- If you live in an apartment, don't let children play in the hall, stairs or on the porch.

2

Wash up Dust

A little bit of lead dust can easily spread over your entire house or apartment. Frequent cleaning using wet mops and rags can help reduce the amount of lead dust in your home.

- Wash window sills, trim around windows and doors and other areas children touch.
- Wash floors once a week.
- Go to the homeowners' section at maine.gov/healthyhomes for more information.

3

Test Your Child for Lead

Talk to your child's doctor about a blood lead test for your child.

- Maine requires all children be tested at 1 and 2 years of age.
- If your child's blood lead test comes back high, your child will need other lead tests to make sure the lead is leaving the body.
- Make sure you go to all the appointments with your child's doctor.
- Go to the parents' section at maine.gov/healthyhomes for more information.

4

Keep Lead Out of your Child's Mouth

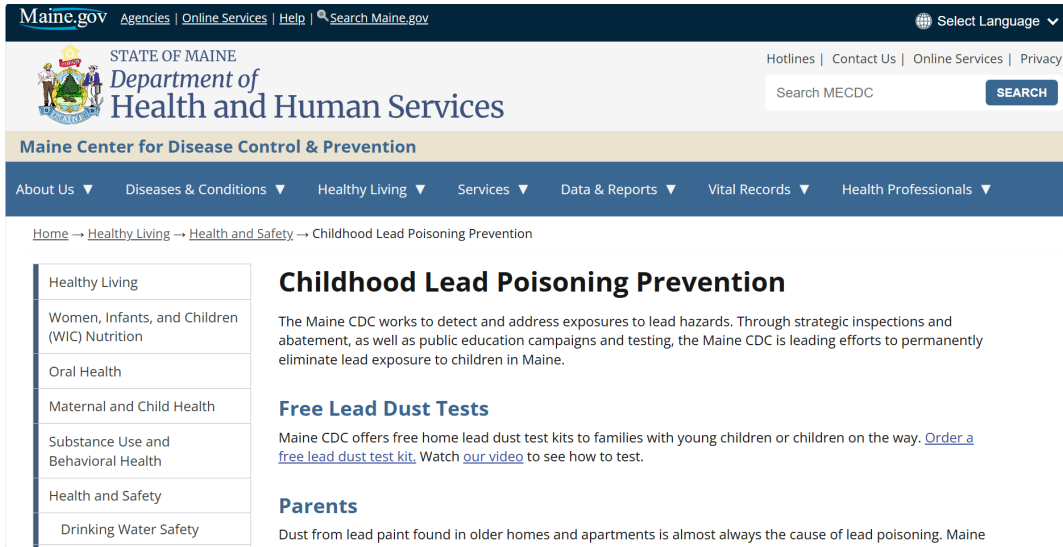
- Wash hands before eating and sleeping.
- Wash toys weekly.
- Don't let children eat food or use pacifiers that have fallen on the floor.
- Feed children at a clean table or in a high chair.

Protect your family.

- Check this website: maine.gov/healthyhomes
- Call for advice: 866-292-3474 • TTY: Call Maine Relay 711



Resources



Maine.gov Agencies | Online Services | Help | Search Maine.gov Select Language ▼

STATE OF MAINE
Department of Health and Human Services

Hotlines | Contact Us | Online Services | Privacy

Search ME CDC SEARCH

Maine Center for Disease Control & Prevention

About Us ▼ Diseases & Conditions ▼ Healthy Living ▼ Services ▼ Data & Reports ▼ Vital Records ▼ Health Professionals ▼

Home → Healthy Living → Health and Safety → Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

Healthy Living

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition

Oral Health

Maternal and Child Health

Substance Use and Behavioral Health

Health and Safety

Drinking Water Safety

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

The Maine CDC works to detect and address exposures to lead hazards. Through strategic inspections and abatement, as well as public education campaigns and testing, the Maine CDC is leading efforts to permanently eliminate lead exposure to children in Maine.

Free Lead Dust Tests

Maine CDC offers free home lead dust test kits to families with young children or children on the way. [Order a free lead dust test kit](#). Watch [our video](#) to see how to test.

Parents

Dust from lead paint found in older homes and apartments is almost always the cause of lead poisoning. Maine

maine.gov/healthyhomes

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP)
207-287-4311 or 1-866-292-3474

Trainings and re-trainings

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention



YouTube Search

How To Do a Home Lead Dust Test

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
An Office of the Department of Health and Human Services

Paul R. LePage, Governor Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner

How To Do a Lead Dust Test

MainePublicHealth

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<https://bit.ly/lead-dust-test-video>



Thank You



Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention