



# Lead Safety in FCC

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What You Can Do to Protect the  
Children You Serve

Family Child Care Association of New York State  
2004 Annual Conference  
October 15-17, 2004



# Presenters

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- Carol Kawecki, M.A., R.N.
  - National Center for Healthy Housing, Columbia, MD
- Diana Webb, Coordinator
  - Rochester Children's Nursery/Family Child Care Satellite Network, Rochester, NY



# Acknowledgements

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Other Partners in the Home-Based Child Care Lead Safety Program include:

- The Enterprise Foundation Upstate
- Neighborhood Housing Services of Rochester, NY
- Child Care Council of Onondaga County, Syracuse NY
- Home HeadQuarters, Inc., Syracuse, NY



# Funding

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- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- New York State Energy and Research Administration
- Affordable Housing Corp. of New York
- Rochester Area Community Foundation
- J.P. Morgan Chase
- Geddes Bank
- Wal-Mart Corporation



# What is Lead?

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- Lead is a heavy metal that causes developmental and health problems
- Lead was added to paints, solder, pottery glazes, cookware, gasoline for many years
- Many occupations and hobbies still use lead
- Lead was banned for use in residential paint and gasoline in the late 70s



# Where is Lead Found?

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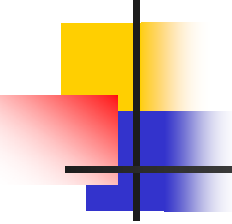
- Interior and exterior paint on houses built before 1978
- Soil near high traffic areas or around older houses
- Drinking water if lead solder in the pipes or water fountains
- Antique glazed pottery, leaded crystal
- Glazed pottery, utensils and folk medicines from outside the U.S.



# Of Special Concern to FCC...

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- Paints, toys, other products manufactured outside the U.S. can contain lead
- Recalled products may still be available at yard sales
- Lead-based paint may be on play equipment in public parks
  - Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) documented lead-based paint in public play equipment in 11 of 16 cities studied in 1996



# Recent CPSC Product Recalls for Lead

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2004

- July: Metal toy jewelry sold in vending machines, manufactured by A&G Global Industries, Brand Imports, Cardinal Distributing Co., and L.M. Becker & Co.
- May: “Old Century Dread Pirate” coffee table game, manufactured by Front Porch Classics
- March: Children’s rings sold in vending machines, manufactured by Brand Imports





# Recent CPSC Product Recalls for Lead

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2003

- Colored sidewalk chalk manufactured by Agglo Corp., sold at Toys “R” Us and Target
- Toy necklaces manufactured by L.M. Becker, sold in vending machines
- Lamaze Activity Toys from RCE/LCI (“Flower Stroller Wrap” and “Bead Buddies”)



# Recent CPSC Product Recalls for Lead (continued)

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- 2001
  - Educational games from Lakeshore Learning Materials (“Concept Classification Activity Kit” and “Opposites Take-Home Pack”)
- 1997
  - Children’s umbrellas from Gymboree
- 1994
  - Crayons imported from China

For more information: [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)



# Lead and Health

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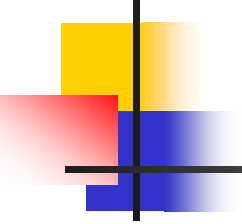




# Children Get Lead Poisoned When They...

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- Put hands or objects covered in lead dust into their mouths
- Eat paint chips, soil, food or water that contains lead
- Breathe in lead dust
  - Especially at risk during home renovation activities that make lead dust
- Are exposed to lead dust on clothes or vehicles from adult occupations or hobbies



# Health Effects of Lead on Young Children

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- Damage to the brain and nervous system
  - Lowered IQ
  - Hearing problems
  - **At high levels of exposure: seizures, coma, DEATH**
- Slowed growth
- Poor appetite
- Behavior and learning problems
  - Poor impulse control
  - Distractibility
  - Learning disabilities



# Health Effects of Lead on Adults

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- Difficulties in pregnancy
- Reproductive problems (men & women)
- High blood pressure
- Digestive problems
- Nerve damage (foot drop, seizures)
- Muscle and joint pain
- Memory problems



# Lead Poisoning Defined

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- U.S. Centers for Disease Control defines blood lead levels (BLL) over 10 mcg/dL as “of concern”
- Children with BLL over 20 mcg/dL must be followed closely by local health departments
  - Children must be tested regularly until their BLLs drop below 10 mcg/dL and stay there
  - Homes and other places where children spend time must be evaluated for lead hazards



# Even a “Little” Lead Can Cause Lifelong Problems

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- **New England Journal of Medicine, 2003**
- Study followed 172 children in the Rochester, N.Y., area whose blood lead was assessed at 6, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48, and 60 months, and who were tested for IQ at both 3 and 5 years of age.
- The researchers controlled for many other factors that contribute to a child's intellectual functioning, such as birth weight, mother's intelligence, income, education, and amount of stimulation in the home.





# Even a “Little” Lead Can Cause Lifelong Problems

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- Richard Canfield, Division of Nutritional Sciences at Cornell University, primary author on the study:
  - “In this sample of children we find that most of the damage to intellectual functioning occurs at blood lead concentrations that are below 10 micrograms per deciliter...”
  - “We were surprised to find that in our study the IQ scores of children who had blood lead levels of 10 micrograms per deciliter were about 7 points lower than for children with levels of 1 microgram per deciliter,” Canfield said.

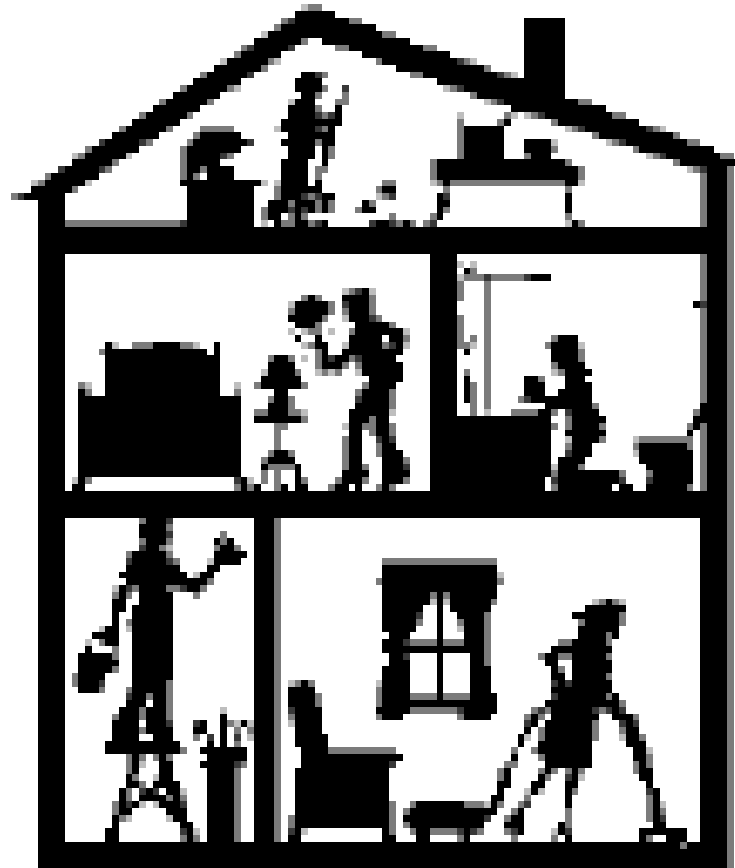


# What a “Little” Lead Means – The Big Picture

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- Walter J. Rogan, M.D. (NIEHS lead expert)
  - “Relatively small changes in the mean IQ of a large number of children will dramatically increase the proportion of children below any fixed level of concern, such as an IQ of 80, and decrease the proportion above any 'gifted' level such as 120...”

# How Can FCC Fight Lead Poisoning?





# What You Can Do in Your Home

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- Test your house for lead if it was built before 1978
- Keep lead-based paint in good repair
- Clean weekly to keep lead dust low
- Cover bare soil around your house
- Know where toys/child care products you use in FCC are manufactured



# What is a Lead “Hazard”?

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- Lead-based paint that is **intact** (not peeling, chipping, flaking) is **not a hazard**
- Deteriorated paint is a hazard
- Paint is most likely to deteriorate on surfaces
  - Subject to rubbing or impact (doors, windows, trim, stairs, floors)
  - Where moisture collects (walls, floors, or ceilings damaged by leaks)
  - Where children can reach and chew (trim, window sills, railings, stair edges)

# Does Your House Look like This?



# Does Your House Look Like This?



# Does Your House Look Like This?







# Testing Your House

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- Testing for lead hazards requires special training
- Home test kits will not give the detailed information you need to correct a hazard
- You can find trained risk assessors or inspector through your local or state Health Dept. or Dept. of Environment
- [www.leadlisting.org](http://www.leadlisting.org) gives a national list



# Correcting Lead Hazards

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- If a risk assessment identifies lead hazards, have the repairs done by trained professionals
- Your local or state Health Dept. or Dept. of Environment has lists of trained professionals
- [www.leadlisting.org](http://www.leadlisting.org) gives a national list
- Select a contractor who is either
  - An EPA-certified lead abatement professional
  - A professional trained in Lead Safe Work Practices (and ask to see the evidence of training)



# Some Important Lead Safe Work Practices

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- Trained professionals should give you the pamphlet **Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home** before they start work
- Your possessions should be out of the work area or covered in plastic before work starts
- Children and pregnant women should be out of the work area until work is done and clean up is over



# Some Important Lead Safe Work Practices

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- These practices are **prohibited** when dealing with lead-based paint:
  - Power sanding
  - Dry scraping
  - Open flame burning
  - Power washing when the waste cannot be contained
  - High temperature heat guns



# Some Important Lead Safe Work Practices

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- These practices are **recommended** for dealing with lead-based paint
  - Contain the work area to prevent the spread of lead dust to other rooms
  - Work wet (mist paint before disturbing)
  - Work clean (clean up dust as it is made)
  - Special cleaning after work is done
  - Dispose of all construction waste properly (not in homeowner's trash)



# Where to Go For More Information

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- HUD's **Lead Paint Safety: A Field Guide for Painting, Home Maintenance, and Renovation Work** describes these practices in detail (on [www.hud.gov/offices/lead](http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead))
- The training for Lead Safe Work Practices is down-loadable from the HUD website:  
(<http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/training>)



# What You Can Do to Maintain

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- Prevent lead-based paint hazards by fixing small problems early
- Identify leaks and fix them
- Follow the Lead Safe Work Practices listed in the **Lead Paint Safety Field Guide**



# Lead Dust Needs Special Cleaning

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- Lead dust is so fine you can't see it
- Regular household cleaning (dry sweeping, dusting with a dry rag) can spread lead dust
- The solution is to **work wet**
- **Clean weekly**
- If you can afford it, **use a HEPA vacuum**
  - High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) vacuums remove very fine particles



# Tools





# What to Clean

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- Look for paint dust and paint chips on:
  - Windows frames
  - Window sills
  - Floors
  - In children's play areas
  - Trim around doors, windows, and baseboards
  - Table tops
  - Kitchen-counter tops
  - Door frames
  - Places near chipping paint



# Gather all cleaning tools needed

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- ❑ Vacuum
- ❑ String mop/sponge mop
- ❑ 2 buckets/double bucket
- ❑ 2 Spray bottles
- ❑ Paper towels/rag
- ❑ Soap solution
- ❑ Duct tape
- ❑ Heavy duty garbage bag
- ❑ Gloves



# How to Clean

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- Wear easy-to-take-off clothes and shoes.
- Always Clean Top-to-Bottom:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Window
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Window frames.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Window sills.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Other surfaces.
  - Always clean floors last.



# Start by Vacuuming

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- Vacuum:
  - Ceilings
  - Walls
  - Trims
  - Other surfaces
  - And floors



# Then Clean Windows

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- Pick up all paint chips with wet disposable cloths/ paper towels
- Fill one spray bottle with soap solution and the other with clean water
- Mist window pane with soap solution
- Scrub windows with cloth. Toss used cloth
- Mist the window with clean water
- Wipe window off with clean cloth
- Follow same steps first for sill, then for trim
- Dispose of trash in heavy-duty plastic bag sealed with tape.



# Then Clean Other Surfaces

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- Mist other surfaces with soapy water
- Scrub surface with cloth. Toss used cloth
- Mist surfaces with clean water
- Wipe with clean cloth
- Dispose of used cloths in heavy duty trash bag sealed with tape

# Clean Floors Last

- Get mop, bucket/s and soap solution
- Place rinse water in one bucket
- Second bucket will be for dirty water
- Or use two-sided bucket

Dirty Water



Clean  
Water



# Floors

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- Soak mop in water with detergent
- Scrub the floor with the mop
- Squeeze the mop into empty bucket, then soak in rinse water. Go over same area again, squeezing dirty water into empty bucket.
- After all the area is cleaned, change dirty mop head
- Repeat steps using clean rinse water
- Change rinse water often.
- Mop small areas at a time





# Remember

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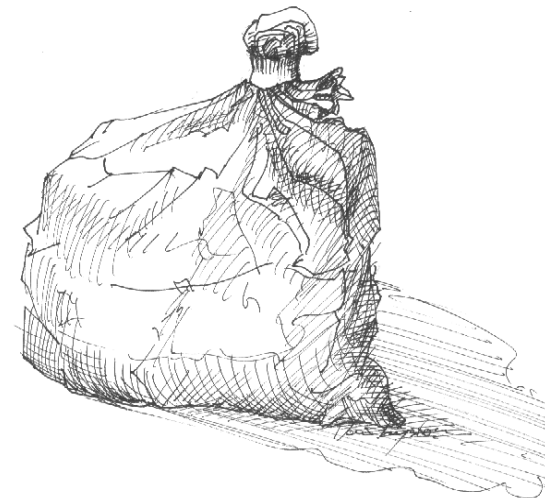
- Always empty rinse water in the toilet
- Remove and wash work clothes separate from other laundry when finished
- Wash hands
- Check your work. Look for remaining:
  - Paint chips
  - Dust
  - Peeling paint
- Pay attention to children's play areas



# Throw Away Waste Properly

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- Place waste in heavy duty plastic bag
- Throw away all dirty cloths or towels
- Seal bag with duct tape to keep dust in





# Lead in Soil

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- Lead dust can be tracked inside on shoes
- Children play in lead-contaminated soil, get on hands, then into mouths

# Where is Soil Containing Lead Found?

- Next to the house
- High use areas (paths, play areas)



# Where is Soil Containing Lead Found?

- Cooking and play areas
- Where downspouts don't drain properly



# Cover Bare Soil

Cover Bare Soil with:

- Flowers
- Shrubs
- Grass
- Gravel
- A permanent cover like concrete
- Wood chips or Mulch



# What Else Can Be Done?

- Keep children from playing in bare soil
- Move children's play areas away from bare soil
- Make sure gutters empty water away from the house

Before



After







# Work Safely Around Lead in Soil

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- Always wear gloves.
- Always wear easy-to-take-off clothes and shoes.
- Wet the soil to keep dust levels low
- Do not eat, drink, or smoke while working.
- Wash yard tools after every use.
- Wash your hands and face after you finish yard work.
- Take your shoes off at the door.
- Change your clothes

# What More You Can Do – Use Doormats at Your Doors

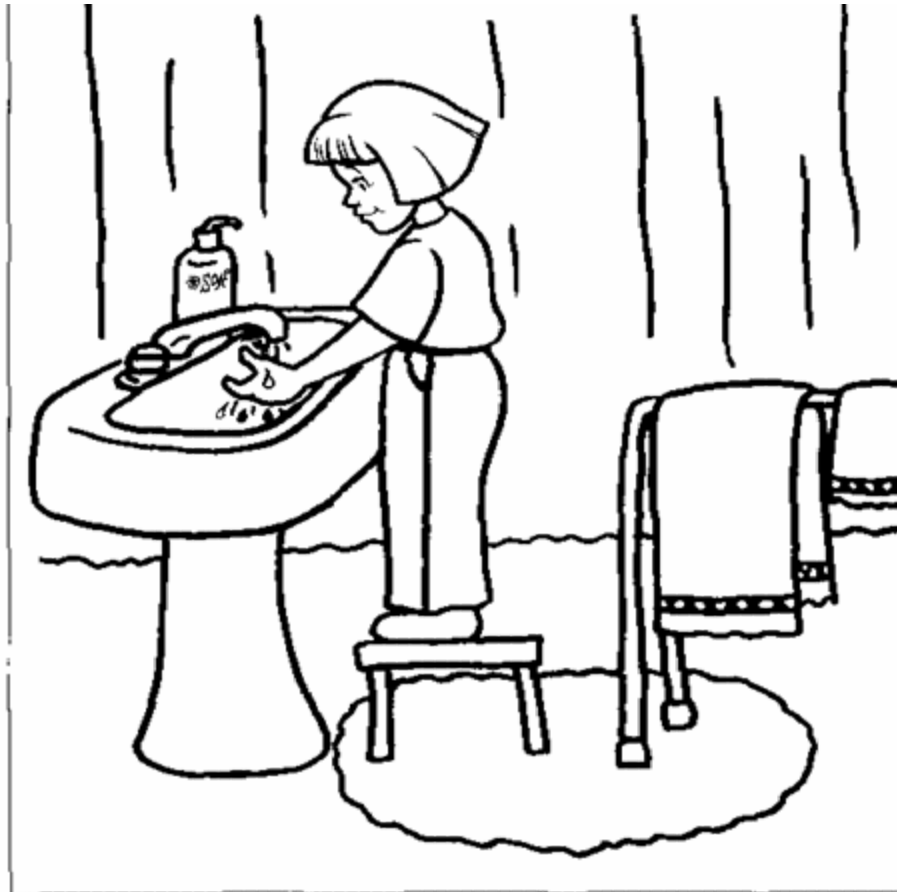
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Where:

- Outside of the front and back entries to the house.
- Just inside of those entries
- At the entrance to any apartment



# Wash Children's Toys and Hands Often





# What You Can Do to Help Parents

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- Educate parents to have children tested
- Educate parents to have their houses tested
- Serve as a role model for cleaning and maintenance



# Bigger Steps – The Home-Based Child Care Lead Safety Program

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- A pilot project in 25 family child care homes in Rochester and Syracuse, NY for 2003-2005
- Targets low-income providers in neighborhoods with old homes and high levels of lead poisoning
- Addresses lead, safety repairs, and energy efficiency needs
- Preserves small businesses by relocating child care to a lead-safe unit while repairs are made



# Bigger Steps – The Home-Based Child Care Lead Safety Program

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- Uses a combination of grants up to \$15,000 and loans to keep costs for low-income FCC providers low
- Provides lead and safety education to providers and parents
- Provides CC R& R agencies/networks and local housing organizations with a model to replicate in elsewhere
- **Would this work in your community?**



TOGETHER

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WE CAN END CHILDHOOD LEAD  
POISONING BY 2010