

# SEVEN FACTS ABOUT LEAD-BASED PAINT AND LEAD DUST



The fact is, you can protect your child from lead poisoning. It takes removing or managing lead hazards, such as lead paint dust, and by using proper lead dust cleaning techniques on a regular basis. Lead poisoning is 100% preventable. And how you clean your home can make all the difference. Please read this flyer to find out more.



## FACT #1

The use of lead paint in homes was banned in 1978. Homes built before 1978 may contain lead paint. Older homes, built before 1950, are very likely to contain lead paint.

## FACT #2

Lead dust is produced from lead paint. As the paint gets older, it may be damaged by moisture or friction if it's disturbed.

## FACT #3

Lead dust is very fine; it cannot be seen.

## FACT #4

Lead dust is the most common source of lead poisoning for everyone, especially children and pets. Children between the ages of one and two are at the greatest risk for being poisoned.



## FACT #5

Lead poisoning usually occurs when children put lead dust in their mouths after touching it. Lead dust can be found on many surfaces such as windowsills, floors and even toys. When children put these surfaces in their mouths, they are putting lead dust in their mouths as well.

## FACT #6

Children may also eat chips of lead paint. The paint chips come from household lead paint, as on old windows or porches, or from paint chips in bare soil in the yard.

## FACT #7

Your local health department will try to find where the lead paint and lead hazards are found in your home. With this information they can determine whether the lead hazards in your home should be removed or managed.



## PREVENT LEAD POISONING BEFORE YOU CAN'T

To find out more, contact the Connecticut Department of Public Health Lead and Healthy Homes Program at 860-509-7299. Or, you can call your local health department.

**WARNING:** Pregnant women must not clean up lead dust because it can harm the developing fetus. You must use an industrial HEPA vacuum ONLY. Do not use an ordinary vacuum. Before you begin, remove children and pets from the rooms being cleaned. Wear old cloths and plastic gloves. Consult the Connecticut Department of Public Health or your local health department for more information on how to clean lead dust safely.