Prescriptions for Prevention

Lead in Homes

Camden County

Did you know?

Lead paint dust in older homes is the main way children are exposed to lead. Even low levels of lead can affect a child's learning and behavior.

Action Plan

- Unless environmental testing shows otherwise, assume paint in homes built before 1978 contains lead. Any peeling paint or lead dust is a risk to children.
- Your child should be tested for lead at their 1 and 2 year old well child visit. Older children should be tested if you are concerned about a lead exposure.
- Wet dust and mop daily to eliminate lead dust and paint chips.
- All home repairs that disrupt paint in homes built before 1978 should be done by a lead certified contractor. **Find one at the following link:**
- Renters: If peeling paint is present, talk to your landlord. If unsatisfied with their response, contact your local municipality's code official.
- Many water service lines are made of lead or have lead solder. This can contaminate the drinking water in your home especially when it sits in the pipe for more than 6 hours. Running the water in your kitchen sink for 3-5 minutes before consuming it in the morning and after work will lower the amount of lead in your water.
- Find out if you have a lead service line by following the steps outlined **in this video:**

Perelman School of Medicine University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia Regional Center for Children's Environmental Health
NIEHS Grant: P2CES033428
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

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Resources

Saint Joseph's Carpenter Society Lead Safe Remediation Program

If you live in a home built before 1978 in Camden County, you may be eligible for free lead testing and remediation through the St. Joseph Carpenter Society Lead Safe Remediation Program. They also have a free home repair program available. Income guidelines apply. Call 856-966-8117 or click here for more information:

NJ American Water Lead Service Line Map

Enter your address in the map to find out if your home has a lead service line or not. If there is no data, view their website on how to test for a lead service line and update the map:

Light Up Your World Lead Remediation Program

Similar to the above program, Light Up Your World provides free lead testing and remediation for eligible residences in Camden County. For more information visit their website or call (856) 817-2460.

Habitat for Humanity Program

Their neighborhood revitalization program includes home preservation services like carpentry repair and trash removal and a critical home repair program that addresses roof leaks, plumbing, electrical issues and more. Income requirements apply. To see if you qualify visit their website and submit an application or call (856) 441-2224.

Zero Interest Loan for Home Improvements

If you are a home owner and need assistance with home repairs you may qualify for a 0 interest deferred loan up to $20,000 to make necessary home improvements. Loans are repaid when the house sells or changes ownership for the original amount you borrowed. For more information call: (856) 751-2242.

For more information on the resources here or other questions, contact the Philadelphia Regional Center for Children's Environmental Health at:
215-573-9076 prcceh@pennmedicine.upenn.edu
Website: prcceh.upenn.edu

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