Prescriptions for Prevention

Lead in Homes

Chester 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

Prescriptions for Prevention

Resources

Chester County Lead Hazard Reduction Program

Children should be tested for their blood lead levels at ages 1 and 2**.** If you rent or own your home, are pregnant, or have a child under the age of six, you may be eligible for the Chester County's Lead Hazard Reduction Program. For more information call (610) 344-6233 or contact Jeanne Frankline at jfranklin@chesco.org

Chester County Health Department

Call the Chester County Health Department at 610-344-6225 if you have questions about lead exposures and steps you can take.

Housing Partnership of Chester County

For income eligible homeowners this program provides a zero interest loan up to $25,000 for home repairs. The loan is paid back only when there is a transfer of ownership of the home. For more information visit their website by clicking here, scanning the QR code or calling 610-518-1522

Habitat for Humanity Whole Home Repair

If you are a home owner and need assistance with home repairs you may qualify for help through this grant based program. For more information call 610-384-7993 or fill out their inquiry form on their website**.** As of June 2024, there is a **waitlist** to be considered for home repairs.

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

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