Lead Awareness

Remember:

Children are most at risk.

No level of lead is safe.

Lead impacts learning and behavior.

84%

of children with a high blood lead level had hazardous lead paint in their home.*

*MDH 2016 Blood Surveillance Report

Minnesota lead sources:

Paint/paint dust

Spices and medication, especially from outside of the U.S.

Parent occupation or hobbies (remodeling, construction, smelting, firearm use, pottery) Products (jewelry, beauty products, toys, ceramics, antiques)

Water





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What you can

Older homes are more likely to have sources of lead.

Lead in drinking water is <u>not</u> a common source of elevated blood lead levels in Minnesota.

If you have a private well, it is recommended you test your tap water for lead.

Children should be screened for blood lead levels at ages 1 and 2 years old.



Do not disturb paint if your house was built before 1978.



Let water run for 30 seconds if you have not used the tap in more than six hours. Use cold water for cooking and drinking.



Clean surfaces regularly with soapy water and a rag.



If your work or hobbies involve lead, do not wear work clothes or shoes into the home and wash clothes separately.



Call Minnesota Department of Health if you are concerned about lead in paint, products, or drinking water. Phone: 651-201-4620

Minnesota children have an elevated blood level.

Lead may be found in inexpensive jewelry, craft charms, toys, keys, and beauty products.

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Do not let children put jewelry or keys in their mouth. Avoid painted antique items such as furniture, lamps, and toys.

Ask your health care provider about blood lead screening guidelines for your child.



