



Insider News

Lead and Healthy
Homes Newsletter

November 2017



National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

Lead is a naturally occurring element found in small amounts in the Earth's crust. Lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust in deteriorating buildings are the primary sources of lead exposure. Children younger than age 7 are most vulnerable because their brains are still developing, and they are more likely to put their hands in their mouths after touching surfaces containing lead. The effects of lead exposure in young children include disruption in neurological connections in the brain that may lead to learning disabilities and developmental delays, attention deficit disorders, and behavior problems. At extremely high levels, lead exposure can lead to a coma and death.

"Lead exposure can have a significant impact on the health of our children, but these adverse effects are preventable," said State Health Commissioner Kris Box, MD, FACOG. "By making parents and healthcare providers more aware of the risk factors and the need to test our homes and our

children, we can better protect Hoosiers."

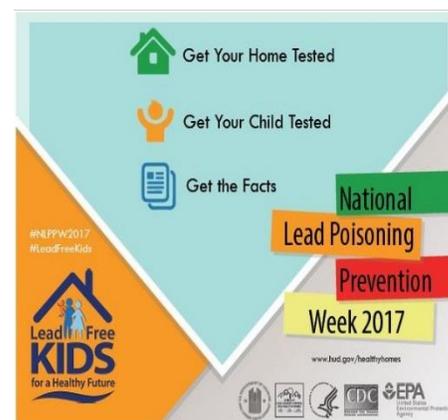
Although lead-based paint was banned in 1978, homes built prior to that date may still have lead paint, putting children at risk. Other potential risk factors may include contaminated drinking water, soil, and consumer products, such as ceramics, toys and costume jewelry.

The Indiana State Department of Health partnered with Improving Kids' Environments (IKE), the Indiana Healthy Homes Alliance (IHHA), Indiana Legal Services, the Marion County Public Health Department and HealthNet for National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (NLPPW) October 22-28, 2017.

The primary goal is to increase awareness of childhood lead poisoning prevention strategies. This year's theme, "Lead Free Kids for a Healthy Future," underscored

the importance of testing children and homes while learning about the drinking water and prevention strategies.

During NLPPW, IHHA and HealthNet provided home lead testing kits. The kits contain swabs for testing painted surfaces within homes. The kits also include a microfiber cloth for cleaning lead dust, information on what to do if the test is positive, and strategies to identify and prevent exposure to lead from other sources.





We are pleased to announce new Lead and Healthy Homes Division Director Paul Krievins! Paul brings a wealth of information on lead, project administration, public health projects and grant writing to the newly created position. Paul previously worked for the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHEDA) where he managed the Indiana Weatherization Program.

Upcoming Training Opportunity

The ISDH Laboratories, in collaboration with the ISDH Lead and Healthy Homes Division would like to remind you to register for “Blood Lead and Case Management Training for

Public Health Nurses and Pediatric Nursing Personnel” if you haven’t done so already. See the invitation or [click here](#) to register.

This training is for those who would provide services to children younger than 7 years old and would collect blood lead specimens. This training provides local health department personnel and clinicians with tools to properly collect, package, and submit capillary and venous blood lead specimens using the ISDH Blood Lead Sample Collection Kit.

Additionally, case management training will be provided by the Indiana Lead and Healthy Homes Division. This training is provided twice annually to maintain compliance with Indiana Code 410 IAC 29-1-5, which requires all case managers be trained within 6 months of hire.



	<p>Blood Lead and Case Management Training for Public Health Nurses and Pediatric Nursing Personnel</p> <p><i>Presented by the Indiana State Department of Health Laboratories</i></p> <p>Description and Goals</p> <p>The goal of this training is to provide local health department personnel and clinicians with tools to properly collect, package, and submit capillary and venous Blood Lead samples using the ISDH Blood Lead Sample Collection Kit. An overview of LeadCase II use will also be provided.</p> <p>Course objectives include the following: sources of lead, risks, symptoms and action levels; exposure assessment; collection techniques and sample submission; phlebotomy regulations and risk reduction. Comprehensive case management training will also be provided.</p> <p>Audience</p> <p>This course is intended for public health nurses and other healthcare workers who would provide services and manage cases for children younger than 7 years old. Case management training meets Indiana statutory requirements for case manager.</p> <p>Indianapolis: November 14, 2017</p> <p>Registration Fee: NO CHARGE Seating is limited, so register early.</p> <p>Please Register Online at: https://www.in.gov/leadandhealthyhomes/c/Blood_Lead_Fall_2017 **Registration deadline 11/7/2017**</p> <p>State of Indiana Forensic and Health Sciences Laboratories (Indiana State Department of Health Laboratories) 550 West 10th Street Indianapolis, IN 46202</p> <p> </p>
<p>November 14, 2017</p> <p>8:30 am-4:30 pm (Local Time) Registration 8:30-9:00 am Lunch: on your own</p> <p>Moderator Jill Mallins, MS, MT(AMT) Public Health Preparedness and Laboratory Services</p> <p>Subject Matter Expert Ernest Elmquist, MPH Lead and Healthy Homes Division</p> <p>Questions? For additional information, please contact: Jill Mallins, MS, MT(AMT) Laboratory Program Advisor (C) 317-221-6574 (C) 317-495-4177 (Twitter)</p>	

Tips to Reduce Lead Exposure

Parents can reduce a child’s exposure to lead in many ways. Here are some simple steps parents can take to help protect their families:

- 1) Test the home:** especially if it was built before 1978. Request a lead inspection before purchasing an older home.
- 2) Have children tested:** Medicaid requires children under age 2 be tested for lead; even if young children seem healthy, request testing – especially if other risk factors are present.
- 3) Learn about home drinking water:** water pipes in some older homes may contain lead solder, which may leach into the water; learn more [here](#).
- 4) Understand the facts:** local health department can provide information about preventing childhood lead exposure, contact information can be found here: <http://www.in.gov/isdh/24822.htm>.

CONTACT US

This newsletter is brought to you by the Indiana State Department of Health Lead and Healthy Homes Division.

Please call 317.233.1250 or [click here](#) for more information

