

# PROTECT CHILDREN FROM LEAD IN SOIL



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Tenants for Healthy Housing – Environmental Health Watch & Cleveland Tenants Organization

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## LEAD IS IN THE SOIL AROUND MOST HOMES IN CLEVELAND.

- The lead comes from lead in old paint and from gasoline spills.

## LEAD IN BARE SOIL CAN POISON YOUNG CHILDREN.

- Soil gets on children's hands and toys. When children put their fingers and toys in their mouths, they eat lead.
- Soil can also be tracked into the house on shoes. It can be blown in through open windows and doors. Then children get lead dust on their hands and toys when they play on the floor.

## COVER BARE SOIL TO PROTECT CHILDREN.

- Grass, plants, even thick weeds can protect children from contact with lead in soil.
- You can use mulch, wood chips, gravel, top soil, sand, bricks or other material to cover bare soil.

## GIVE CHILDREN A SAFE PLACE TO PLAY OUTDOORS.

- A sandbox with clean sand is one way to keep young children away from lead in soil.

## STOP DIRT AT THE DOOR.

- Place a rug at each entry door and wash the rugs often.
- Remove shoes at the entry door to keep lead dust out.

## KEEP FLOORS CLEAN.

- Vacuum carpets weekly.
- Wash floors weekly.

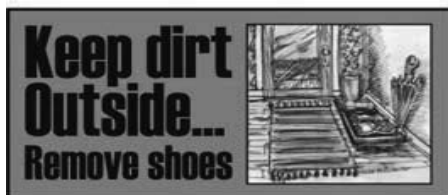
## KEEP CHILDREN FROM EATING DIRT AND DUST THAT MAY CONTAIN LEAD.

- Wash hands, toys, bottles and pacifiers often.

## TEST YOUNG CHILDREN FOR LEAD POISONING.

- Test children's blood-lead levels at ages 1, 2, 3, and 4.

*For information on lead contamination in gardens see: [www.ehw.org](http://www.ehw.org)*



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