



National Center for Environmental Health

# CDC Environmental Health Nexus Newsletter

Healthy Environment, Healthy You

October 2023 | Volume 24

EH Nexus newsletters provide information about environmental health issues and promotes actions to help save lives. The newsletters explain how to reduce harm from many threats, such as climate change, contaminated food and water, toxic environments, and inadequate systems and practices.



This issue covers the following topics:

- [Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention](#)
  - [Where Children are Exposed to Lead](#)
  - [Risk Factors and Prevention](#)
  - [National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week](#)
- [EH Nexus Webinar: Children and Lead Exposure](#)
- [Environmental Health Updates and Resources](#)



If the newsletter was emailed directly to you, we thank you for joining our subscription distribution list. If you are not a subscriber, please click [here](#), enter your email address, and click the subscribe button.



Tune in for new EH Nexus podcast episodes where we discuss the wonderful world of environmental public health as we explore groundbreaking research, meet exceptional leaders, and discuss topics of general interest. Click [here](#) to view the latest episodes and updates.

## Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

Lead is a naturally occurring metal that can cause negative health effects. People are exposed to lead by eating lead paint chips, ingesting contaminated food or water, and / or by breathing in lead dust. Children younger than 6 years are more likely to be exposed due to their hand-to-mouth behavior. Many children ingest lead dust by putting objects such as toys and dirt in their mouths.

The [effects](#) of lead poisoning can be permanent and disabling.

### Where Children Are Exposed



Children can be exposed to lead where they live, learn, and play. [Sources](#) of lead exposure can include the following:

- [Chipping or peeling paint](#) in homes or buildings built before 1978
- [Water](#) from lead pipes
- [Soil](#) near airports, highways, or factories
- Some imported [candies and traditional medicines](#)

- Some imported [toys and jewelry](#)
- Certain [jobs and hobbies](#)

## Risk Factors and Prevention for Lead Exposure

Some children are at a greater risk for lead exposure from paint, water, soil, some imported items such as traditional medicines and herbs, industrial sources, and certain jobs and hobbies (through their parents and caregivers). More information can be found on the [Populations at Higher Risk](#) web page.

The goal of CDC's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) is to [prevent childhood lead exposure](#) before any harm occurs. Through CLPPP, CDC supports [state and local public health departments](#) with funds for surveillance and prevention of lead exposure.

## Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Awareness Week

**Lead Free KIDS**  
for a Healthy Future

**National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week**

October 22-28, 2023

**Get the Facts**

**Get Your Child Tested**

**Get Your Home Tested**

**Together, we can prevent lead exposure!**

#LeadFreeKids #NLPPW2023

**EPA** United States Environmental Protection Agency

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

**OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTH POLICY**

**CDC** PARTNER AND BROTHER Center for Disease Control and Prevention

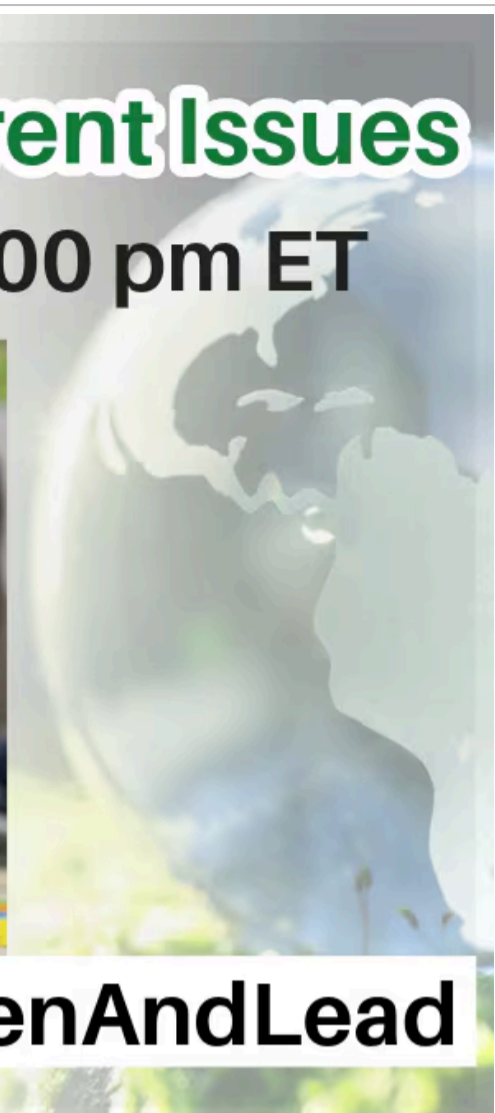
### October 22–28, 2023

Each year, National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (NLPPW) is a call to bring together individuals, organizations, industry, and state, tribal, and local governments to increase lead poisoning prevention awareness to reduce childhood exposure to lead. NLPPW highlights the many ways parents can reduce children's exposure to lead in their environment and prevent its serious health effects. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and our partners work to heighten awareness of lead poisoning, provide resources, and encourage preventive actions during NLPPW and beyond.

### Environmental Health (EH) Nexus Webinar: Children and Lead Exposure: Current Issues

# Lead Exposure in Children: Current Issues

October 26, 2023 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm ET



**Webinar Registration: [bit.ly/ChildrenAndLead](https://bit.ly/ChildrenAndLead)**

Join us on October 26, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. ET for the next EH Nexus webinar. Subject matter experts from the Lead Poisoning Prevention and Surveillance Branch at CDC's National Center for Environmental Health will serve as presenters for this webinar.

During this webinar, you will learn about

- CDC's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
- Different sources and routes of lead exposure
- Health effects
- Economic and racial disparities
- Prevention and mitigation to reduce lead exposure
- Blood lead testing
- Recent lead-related media stories and recalls

This webinar will be broadcast via Zoom. Visit the Environmental Health Nexus [website](#) for more details, and registration is required.

Closed captioning will be available.

Environmental Health Updates and Resources

## Quick Guides on Splash Pads and Floatation Tanks

Explore these quick guides for health departments and pool operators (developed by the National Association of County and City Health Officials through a cooperative agreement with CDC).

- [Preventing the Spread of Germs in Splash Pads](#)  [PDF - 1.73 MB] [↗](#)
- [Safely Managing Floatation Tanks](#)  [PDF - 772.39KB] [↗](#)

Learn what contributes to a strong food safety culture in restaurants.

CDC's new plain language summary for [restaurant and food safety](#) explores the key components of a strong food safety culture. The summary also links to a tool to help restaurant managers see what practices are strengthening or weakening their restaurant's food safety culture.

The study was part of [CDC's Environmental Health Specialists Network](#), a collaborative forum conducting practice-based research on restaurant [food safety](#).

**Thank you for reading. Do not keep this great resource to yourself! Please share it with your colleagues and networks.**

**If you are not yet a subscriber, please click [here](#), enter your email address, and click the subscribe button at the bottom of the webpage.**

Last Reviewed: October 24, 2023