



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Norwalk Health Department

Do You Work in Construction or as a Painter? Protect Your Children from Harmful Lead Dust

If you are a painter or work in construction, you may come in contact with lead, and you may have lead dust on your clothes, in your hair, and on your shoes, which could be harmful to your children.

How do I know if there is lead in the paint or walls I am working with?

You won't know if lead is in the paint or the walls unless it is tested. It is best to take precautions and assume that it could contain lead.

Should I get lead tested? Or should my child?

Lead affects children under the age of six more and at a much higher rate than it affects adults. You should consider getting tested yourself, and make sure your child is up to date with his/her lead testing. Discuss with their doctor that they may need a more up-to-date lead test.

What precautions can I take?

1. Take your work boots/shoes off outside the door of your home.
2. Change out of your work clothes before entering home, and put them in a separate plastic bag.
3. Shower before having contact with children.
4. Shower before going into kitchen where food is being prepared or served.
5. Wash work clothes separately from the rest of your laundry.
6. Make sure that your child has no contact with tools or materials used for on-site jobs.
7. If you transport your work tools in the same car that a child rides in, keep tools in a container, minimize dust, wipe down the car seat, and wash the child's hands after riding in car.
8. Minimize exposure to dust and any paint-contaminated clothing.

Who can I contact for more information?

Call the **Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** at Norwalk Health Department with any other questions: (203) 854-7875.