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**CITY OF CINCINNATI  
DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT**

**&**

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

**LEAD BASED PAINT  
HAZARD REDUCTION  
GRANT PROGRAM**

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*Making Cincinnati  
A Lead Safe City*



***LEAD IS TOXIC***

Lead is a metal with no health benefit. Lead is dangerous to persons of all ages and can damage kidneys, red blood cells, and the nervous system. However, lead is especially dangerous to children six years of age and younger. Even the smallest amounts of lead can interfere with a child's brain development and can result in a permanent reduction in intelligence and may cause behavioral and learning problems.

Homes built before 1978 may have lead paint, which can deteriorate and create leaded dust that can poison a child. Most children are poisoned in their own homes. The only way to protect children from lead poisoning is to remove lead hazards from their environment. Improperly performed repair or renovation work can actually make the problem worse.

**What can you do to prevent lead poisoning?**

Parents should also make sure their homes are free from lead hazards. Lead-based paint is considered a hazard only when it is deteriorated or on a friction surface – where painted components rubs against another surface. Maintaining intact conditions on all painted surfaces in a pre-1978 house is vital to preventing lead poisoning.

**Make sure your children receive regular lead tests from their pediatrician.** All Cincinnati children should receive a lead test starting at six months of age and continuing through six years of age.

**Lead poisoning is the number one environmental health hazard to children under six years of age and is 100% PREVENTABLE!**

Nearly 500,000 children living in the United States have blood lead levels high enough to cause irreversible damage to their health.

Lead poisoning afflicts thousands of children within the City of Cincinnati. Low-income families are disproportionately affected. Our strategies are designed to reduce the dangers posed by lead-based paint in our neighborhoods and protect our young children from exposure in their homes.



City of Cincinnati

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# ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE!

Rarely can all the lead be removed from a home. However, reducing lead hazards from the home environment is a workable option. Processes may involve covering lead with a durable coating (called encapsulating), enclosing components containing lead (placing a durable barrier such as gypsum board or coil stock over a leaded surface), or replacing leaded components completely. Encapsulating or enclosing surfaces is what is most often done.

Original wood windows in older homes are a major source of leaded dust. Window replacement will usually be a treatment in this program, being replaced with high quality, energy efficient windows, helping to decrease energy costs as well as providing lead safety.

## ELIGIBILITY

Assistance is offered as a forgivable loan, as long as the owner resides in the property for at least three years after the assistance is received. In general, all properties must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ House was built before 1978, owner-occupied single family residence; proof of ownership with a clear title must be provided
- ✓ Property owner makes less than 80% of the Area Median Income, which is up to \$55,350 for a family of four

- ✓ Property **must** be occupied by a child six years of age or younger. All children under the age of six that reside at or frequent the house **must** have a blood lead test before receiving this assistance
- ✓ Home must be adequately insured and current on all taxes and water bills
- ✓ The property must not have any structural deficiencies and must have identifiable lead hazards (you do not need to have hazards identified before applying to the program)
- ✓ Must have resided in the property for at least one year before receiving the assistance AND must reside in the property for 3 years after receiving this assistance

## PRIORITY PARTICIPATION

Certain neighborhoods historically have had a disproportionately high rate of lead poisoning. Assistance is available **ONLY** to homes in the priority areas (listed below). Properties currently housing lead poisoned children may receive priority over homes without lead poisoned children.

**West End, Over-the-Rhine,  
Mt. Auburn, CUF, Corryville,  
Walnut Hills, Evanston,  
Madisonville, Avondale,  
Northside, South Cumminsville,  
North and South Fairmount,  
West, East, and Lower Price Hill,  
Carthage**

## UNIT PREPARATION AND RELOCATION

Before lead work can begin, occupants will be expected to prepare their unit. Occupants will be asked to move all belongings to the center of contaminated rooms where lead work will be performed so the items can be covered safely. Only the contractor is allowed in the residence while lead remediation work is occurring. Occupants are encouraged to stay with family or friends for the duration of the work. Occupants unable to completely relocate may be allowed to return to the unit overnight but must vacate during the day. A small incentive is offered to help offset the cost and inconvenience of having to temporarily relocate.

## APPLICATION

Potential applicants should contact the Cincinnati Department of Community Development at (513) 352-4982.

## RENOVATORS AND CONTRACTORS

To learn about FREE classes on lead safe renovation please contact the Cincinnati Department of Community Development at (513) 352-4982.

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