

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION



WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW

Lead can harm a child's brain and body – even if there are no symptoms.

- Most lead exposure comes from old paint and dust in homes built before 1978.
Southington has many older homes!
- Children often touch or put their mouth on surfaces, making them more at risk.
- The only way to know if a child has lead in their body is through a blood test.



WHAT'S CHANGED?

The lead level that triggers action is now lower than before.

- In the past, action started at **15 µg/dL**
- Now, action starts at **3.5 µg/dL**
- More children are being identified early – and that's a good thing!

WHAT YOU CAN DO...

Easy Ways to Protect Your Child:

- Ask your doctor for a blood lead test
- Check your home for peeling paint or dust
- Wash hands and toys regularly
- Give your child foods rich in calcium, iron, and zinc
- Call us for help or questions!

HOW WE CAN HELP

SCHD works with your child's doctor and your family.

- We make sure your child is tested at 12 months and 24 months
- If lead is found, our Public Health Nurse will help manage care
- If needed, our Sanitarians will inspect your home for lead sources
- We'll help you reduce risks inside and outside your home