



# Get the **Lead** Out of Paterson! Steps to Protect Your Family

Lead can damage the body and brain of a child, and can create behavior and learning problems. There is no safe amount of lead in a child's body.

## Check your children under 6 years of age for elevated blood lead levels.

over 3.5ug/DL (micrograms per deciliter) is elevated

**Do you have a pediatrician?** Ask them to test your child's lead levels.  
**No pediatrician?** The following resources offer **FREE** lead testing clinics for children:

- **The Paterson Health Department:** **FREE** lead testing clinics the first three Wednesdays of every month at 8:30-10:30 a.m.  
176 Broadway, Paterson, NJ. 973-321-1277 (ext. 2762)
- **Paterson Community Health Center,** 32 Clinton Street, Paterson, NJ. 973-790-6594.  
Mon - Fri 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If lead levels come back elevated, Paterson Health Department will contact you with support.

## Get your drinking water pipes replaced if they contain lead above 15 parts per billion (ppb) is elevated

### All lead service lines bringing water to your property are required to be replaced by 2031.

- Visit [www.pvwcleadserviceline.com](http://www.pvwcleadserviceline.com) to check if you have a lead service line and the steps to replace it.
- Call Customer Service at 973-340-4300 with concerns.

### Check your indoor plumbing materials for lead:

- Call Paterson Building Department who may have records. 973-321-1232.
- Or call a plumber to check your indoor plumbing. If lead-based, ask your landlord to replace them.

### Until your line is replaced:

- Passaic Valley Water Commission offers **FREE** lead sample testing. Call Customer Service at 973-340-4300.
- Install a certified water filter (NSF 53 or 42), or run your water for one minute before drinking or cooking.
- Use cold water with baby formula.

## Check for lead paint inside your home built before 1978

The following offer **FREE** paint lead testing and support to fix problems found.

- **Paterson Health Department.**  
Fill out an application:  
176 Broadway, second floor.  
973-321-1277 (ext. 2762)
- **Greater Bergen Community Action:**  
[www.LeadSafeGBCA.org](http://www.LeadSafeGBCA.org)  
201-464-9702
- **Passaic County Lead Assistance Program:**  
[vivianj@passaiccountynj.org](mailto:vivianj@passaiccountynj.org)  
973-569-4714

**Stay away from chipping/peeling paint** until fixed. Mop and wet wipe the area.

# Know Your Rights! The Lead Laws that Matter for You and Your Family!

## Know Your Child's Blood Lead Level!

The law requires that all children between 9–18 months and again between 18 and 22 months be tested for lead levels. Children three years of age or older must be tested at least once before their sixth birthday, if they had not already been tested at one and two years old.



*If levels are 3.5ug/DL or higher your child has elevated blood lead levels according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) standards. **See the front of this card with information on ways to get your child tested.***

## Keep your drinking water safe from lead!



The law requires that all lead service lines in New Jersey municipalities be replaced with safer lines within 10 years or by 2031. By September 2022, water systems should have provided notice to customers with lead and/or galvanized drinking water service lines.

*If lead levels are above 15 parts per billion (ppb) in your water, then you have elevated levels of lead in your water according to the CDC. **See the front of this card with information on ways to test your water and learn about line replacement.***

## Keep your home safe from lead paint!

A 2022 law requires that **all rental properties** be inspected for lead no later than July 22, 2024; then inspected again three years after a lead-safe certificate was issued. During inspection, if no lead-based paint hazards are identified, then the owner of the home receives a lead-safe certification. If hazards are found, then the landlord is required to fix those hazards.

**Ask your landlord if they have a lead safe certificate. If not, reach out to your local Health Department to determine the next steps to protect your home from lead.**



LEAD-FREE

