

Lead-Free NJ Advocacy Coordinating Committee Meeting 9/4/25, 3:30 – 5:00pm

Agenda

- Community Hub Updates & Support Request (Yvette) 3:30 3:45, 15 mins
 - East Trenton Collaborative (Shereyl)
 - August 9 Environmental Justice Listen and Learn Event | EPA adds East Trenton to Superfund
 - October 11 Trenton Lead Awareness & Community BBQ at Sonny Vareen Park
 - Seeking sponsors & supports contact <u>ssnider@urbanpromisetrenton.org</u>
 - Paterson Alliance (Shanikwa)
 - 9/30 EJ Community Engagement Event | 17 LRAP units completed, including 4 abatements | Seeking healthcare partner to support community lead testing event | Establishing partnership with Rebuilding Together to offer additional housing rehab services for LRAP clients | Distributed water during the Paterson water main break in collaboration with NJEJA & NWC | Planning a lead awareness event in the fall
 - Seeking healthcare provider support for community lead testing
 - The HUUB (Doug)
 - Opinion: An Effort is Underway to Replace Lead Pipes in Orange and Make Drinking Water
 Safer | Community resource guide drafting | Seeking tenants' rights information
 - Thank you, PRAC of Southern NJ role transition (Heather)
 - PRAC of Southern NJ has transitioned out of their role as Lead-Free NJ community hub in South Jersey. They remain active members of the collaborative, and LFNJ is grateful for their leadership.
- Federal Impacts (Yvette, Mike, Tom) 3:45 3:55, 10 mins
 - EPA Administrator Zeldin told the Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee that lead is a priority
 - Funding: The current federal budget expires end of September 2025. Congress is working on the FY26 budget.
 - Proposed budgets from the Senate & House cut HUD lead hazard control funding from \$345 million to \$295 million (better than the President's budget, which proposed eliminating all funding)
 - For the CDC, the Senate budget proposed flat funding with strong numbers for childhood lead. The House budget proposed a \$61 million cut to CDC environmental health programs, and it's unclear how much this would impact lead.
 - Advocates may consider supporting the Senate version of FY26 appropriations,
 which proposes more funding for CDC environmental health programs.
 - It's unlikely that Congress will pass a full budget by the September deadline, so a continuing resolution is likely.
 - CDC lead staff are reinstated.
 - The committee agrees to conduct outreach to Rep Van Drew.
- FY26 State Budget Final (Kelvin, Jessika) 3:55 4:00, 5 mins
 - FY26 NJ Budget Lead Updates

- o LSLR Funding NJ SFY26 (1).pdf
- FY27 action budget resolution for LRAP, strategy discussion
- NJ Lead Hazard Control Funding Campaign (Kelvin, Ben, Ruth) 4:00 4:05, 5 mins
 - The \$180 million in American Rescue Plan Act Funds currently funding NJ's Lead Paint Remediation and Abatement program will expire at the end of 2026. It's unclear if and how NJ will fund this program after 2026.
 - o Isles is proposing legislation to make changes to the lead hazard control fund. Contact Ruth & Ben to learn more & get involved: rdelpino@isles.org & bhaygood@isles.org
- Legislative Priorities (Yvette) 4:05 4:10, 5 mins
 - A2929/S1034: Requires disclosure of lead drinking water hazards to tenants of residential units; prohibits landlords from obstructing replacement of lead service lines; concerns testing of residential units for lead drinking water hazards. Deandrah
 - NJF information share: Passed both Assembly & Senate, still pending the Governor's signature.
 - A4848/S3616: Requires health care professionals to perform lead screening on pregnant persons under certain circumstances. Elyse
 - Isles information share: Passed the Assembly, pending Senate budget committee. Advocates can contact Senator Sarlo & Ruiz to support.
 https://uioin.co/campaigns/3990/actions/public?action_id=5803
- Lead Gubernatorial Candidate Education (Kelvin, Debbie, Rashan) 4:10 4:20, 10 mins https://www.leadfreenj.org/njgovleadprevention/
 - Updates to <u>Full Version</u>, deadline to review: 9/11
 - <u>Election Dates</u>: 9/20 mail-in ballots start, 10/14 voter registration deadline, 10/25 11/2 early voting, 11/4 election day
 - Candidates: General Election Vacancy Candidate: Governor | Official General Election Candidates: Governor
 - Member platforms
 - https://www.nilcvef.org/issues/environmental-fix-26
- Committee Updates (Yvette) 4:20 4:40, 20 mins
 - Housing (Alix, Bert, Natasha)
 - Advocacy asks to DCA include modifications to LRAP documentation requirements, better language access, protection from federal overreach, increased project caps (DCA said they would consider this point in the fall). The next meeting with DCA is 9/25.
 - The committee created a sub-committee to convene LRAP agencies for peer learning.
 - The committee is involved with the campaign to secure LRAP funding after 2026.
 - The committee established a priority of advocating for all NJ towns to conduct dust wipe samples for inspections under the state lead paint inspection law (even if only a visual is required).
 - Water Advocacy (Rachel, Amy, Deandrah)
 - 9/16 committee meeting | <u>Securing Our Children's Future Bond Act, deadline 10/31</u> | New School Filter Program
 - Workgroup: LSLR webinar 9/15
 - Advisory Group: data report, filter first white paper progress, intern researching childcare policy memo to DCF
 - Health (Sheila, Elyse)

- August meeting notes
- NJAAP may propose advocacy actions related to reimbursement to healthcare providers for blood lead level testing.
- Member Share (Yvette)
 - o GHHI NJ Lead Poisoning Prevention Plan
 - SNJPC Lead Testing
 - https://www.waterspirit.org/10-steps Sharing eco anxiety support tonight. Please Email me rddavis@waterspirit.org if you want to partake in the 10 week group, which begins/closes firmly tonight with step 2 virtually at 7PM (for 10 weeks -if you can make them)
 - o JC Together Housing Team has a tenants rights listening session this Saturday. I can ask the organizer to include info on lead disclosure.

Updates:

LFNJ Listen and Learn – Tenants' Rights Webinar

- o The committee supports this topic for the next LFNJ Listen and Learn
- Presentations available from the National Lead and Healthy Homes Conference & NJ Lead Conference
- NJLM Lead Panel & webinar with NFBPA

Information share:

- Lead Poisoning Prevention Week
- NJ Eviction Guide: https://www.nj.gov/dca/dhcr/offices/evictionguide.shtml
- Volunteer Training: Intro to the Legislative Process
- <u>Upcoming Events</u>

Committee Resources:

- Committee Chairs: Kelvin Boddy & Yvette Jordan
- Last meeting notes: 5.28.25 LFNJ Advocacy Coordinating Committee
- LFNI Strategic Work Plan [Master]
- <u>LFNJ Operating Procedures</u>
- <u>Newsletter</u>

Lead-Free NI committees

NI Lead Policy Track

Legislative Advocacy Calendar example