



TIP OF THE MONTH



10 Important Lead-Based Paint (LBP) Facts

1. **LBP was banned for residential use in 1978:** The older the home, school, daycare, etc. the more likely the structure has lead.
2. **Lead-Free Paint (LFP) can contain lead:** The Consumer Product Safety Commission defines LBP as paint containing <math><0.06\%</math> lead by weight. Paint containing lead can still be purchased at your local Lowes, Home Depot or Walmart.
3. **LBP in good (intact) condition is not a hazard:** Peeling, chipping or damaged LBP is a hazard and needs immediate attention. Lead must be ingested or the dust inhaled into the lungs to facilitate lead poisoning.
4. **Lead containing dust is the most common way children are exposed:** Dust can be invisible to the eye and caused by sanding or scraping of LBP during remodeling, repairs or renovations or a friction surfaces such as doorframes or windows. Children are exposed to lead dust during hand-to-mouth activities. Most lead poisoning happens in the home; it is preventable but the damage done is permanent.
5. **Improper cleanup of lead dust increases the dangers of lead poisoning:** Dust particles are so small they are not collected by a household vacuum. Dry sweeping or dusting also releases dust into the air.
6. **Lead poisoning is not easy to detect:** Sometimes no symptoms occur or symptoms can be similar to common illness like the flu. Even children who seem healthy can have high levels of lead in their bodies. Studies indicate it costs an extra \$38 thousand dollars to educate a child with lead poisoning.
7. **Children under 6 are most at risk:** More than 3 million children in the US (1 out of every 6) have toxic levels of lead in their bodies. Children's growing bodies absorb more lead and their brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead. A blood test is required to identify lead poisoning.
8. **Expectant mothers are at risk:** Lead poisoning can be passed from the mother to the baby causing miscarriages, still births as well as learning disabilities, reduced IQ, and behavior problems in children.
9. **Federal law requires landlords or sellers to disclose information on LBP:** Know this when planning to buy, rent or renovate pre-1978 housing. Lead poisoning is a current event; not a problem of the past.
10. **Occupational exposures to LBP occur when paint is improperly removed or disturbed during sanding, scraping, burning, blasting (including cleanup):** Federal law requires contractors performing renovation, repair or painting projects that disturb more than 6 SF in homes, childcare facilities and schools be certified and trained to follow specific lead-safe work practices.

About our organization: AET has over 28 years of environmental contracting/consulting experience including hundreds of lead projects. AET has a proven record of success to respond promptly and cost effectively to your lead issues.

Have a LBP question??? Email Thomas Adams at t.adams@aetinc.biz or Call at AET at 610-891-0114 or 1-800-9696-AET. We provide nationwide services; phone consultations are free. Check out the full range of lead consulting and contracting services AET provides at our website at www.aetinc.biz