

# PREVENTING LEAD DUST INSIDE & OUTSIDE



## Inside

- Move furniture to block your child from paint that is chipping and peeling. Block any painted areas on which your child might bite, chew, or suck, such as windowsills.
- Cover windowsills with contact paper.
- Keep windows closed that have peeling or flaking paint to prevent lead paint dust from moving throughout the home.
- Tell babysitters about lead hazards in your home.
- Wash and dry your child's hands often, especially before meals.
- Use tacky tape to remove loose, flaking paint, if only a small area is flaking (less than one square foot).
- Repair small holes in walls or doors with spackle or caulking.
- Wash your child's toys weekly before allowing your child to play with them (toys can be cleaned in the sink or tub).

## Outside

- Place doormats on the inside and outside of the main entrance to your home so that you don't track lead-contaminated soil into the house.
- Take shoes off before entering the house.
- Don't let your child play in bare soil areas.
- Keep your pet on a leash and out of bare soil. Your pet can become lead poisoned and can track lead chips from the soil.

## Prevent lead poisoning before you can't

To find out more, contact the Connecticut Department of Public Health Lead and Healthy Homes Program at 860-509-7299. Or, call the East Hartford Health Department at 860-291-7324.

Warning: Pregnant women must not clean up lead dust because it can harm developing fetus. You must use an industrial HEPA vacuum ONLY. Do not use a ordinary vacuum. Before you begin, remove children and pets from the room being cleaned. Wear old clothes and plastic gloves. Consult the Connecticut Department of Public health or your local health department for more information on how to clean lead dust safely