

LEAD SAFE WESTCHESTER (LSW)

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| PROGRAM | <p>The Lead Safe Westchester (LSW) Program awards grants for improvements in single and multi-family housing units that were built before 1978, at no cost to the property owner. If chipped or peeling lead-based paint and other safety hazards are identified, LSW staff will provide funds for assistance which may include: paint stabilization, door and window replacements, minor electrical repairs, installation of smoke detectors and other safety repairs. The LSW Program is federally funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).</p> |
| ELIGIBILITY | <p>Homeowners, including rental property landlords, are eligible to participate in the LSW Program. In order to qualify, residents must provide documentation that they earn at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) for Westchester County. Priority consideration will be given to households with children under 6 years old and pregnant women. Tenants concerned about lead-based paint in their homes are encouraged to ask their landlords to apply to the LSW Program.</p> <p>LSW funds are limited and will be awarded on a first come, first served basis.</p> |
| AREAS | <p>All areas of Westchester County are eligible.</p> |
| TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE | <p>LSW Staff will arrange for lead-based paint inspections, develop the scope of work, solicit bids from EPA Certified Lead Contractors, review proposals for improvements, select the lowest qualified bidder, and monitor and inspect work on behalf of property the owners.</p> |
| RESTRICTIONS | <p>Rental Housing: Owners of rental units are required to market LSW treated units to income eligible households for 3 years following completion of the repairs.</p> <p>Owner Occupied Housing: Homeowners may not sell or transfer their homes for at least 3 years following the completion of the LSW repairs.</p> |
| CONTACT INFORMATION | <p>To request an application, property owners, landlords and tenants call 914-995-4602 or e-mail tkr3@westchestergov.com</p> <p>https://homes.westchestergov.com/lead-paint En Español https://espanol.epa.gov/espanol/plomo</p> |

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LEAD AND YOUR HEALTH

Lead from paint, dust, and soil can be dangerous to your health. Lead gets into the body when it is ingested or inhaled and exposure to lead can harm children especially those under 6 years of age. Lead affects the brains and developing nervous systems of young children. Exposure to lead can result in reduced IQ, learning disabilities and behavioral problems. Even children who appear healthy can have dangerous levels of lead in their bodies. Pregnant women exposed to lead can transfer lead to their fetuses, which can affect the fetus' brain development. Lead is harmful to adults and may cause high blood pressure and hypertension.

If you are concerned about exposure to lead:

Call your doctor or the Westchester County Health Department at (914) 813-5000 to arrange for a blood test. The health department will also be able to give advice on reducing exposure to lead inside the home, child care facility or school.

Protect you and your family every day by:

Regularly clean floors, window sills and other surfaces.

Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers and toys often.

Wipe off or remove shoes before entering the home.

Run the cold water for 1-3 minutes in the morning before using it, if your buildings' plumbing is old.

Use only cold water for cooking, making baby formula and drinks.

Make sure children eat healthy, nutritious diets high in calcium and iron.

Go to this website for more information:

<https://health.westchestergov.com/lead-poisoning-prevention>

SAFE RENOVATIONS

If there is lead-based paint in the home, but the household is not eligible for LSW assistance, it is recommended that an EPA Certified Lead Contractor is hired to perform renovations, repairs or painting (RRP) in the pre-1978 home or childcare property. EPA contractors have been trained to follow specific Lead Safe work practices to prevent further lead contamination.

LSW SERVICES

The LSW Program provides: inspection services including visual surveys of the property, dust wipe sampling performed on interior surfaces, soil samples and on-site paint testing using an x-ray fluorescence (XRF) analyzer; education, outreach and training.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Parents: Learn about Lead

<https://www.epa.gov/lead/learn-about-lead>

Consumers: Find a Certified Lead Contractor

http://cfpub.epa.gov/flpp/searchrrp_firm.htm

Contractors: Training-lead safe certification/ recertification

<https://www.epa.gov/lead/getcertified>

Property Owners: Know your responsibilities

<https://www.epa.gov/lead/renovation-repair-and-painting-program-property-managers>

