



Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name

Street Address

City State ZIP

() Area Code Telephone Number

St. Louis County Ordinance Chapter 628 (Rev. 2000) requires the completion of this form prior to school enrollment of children less than 72 months of age.

KINDERGARTEN LEAD POISONING SCREENING FORM

This is to certify that my child, date of birth,

Does Does not

- Routinely spend time in a dwelling which was constructed before 1978 and which has peeling, chipping or flaking paint.
Routinely spend time in a dwelling which was constructed before 1978 and which is undergoing renovation likely to disrupt painted surfaces.
Routinely spend time in the care of a person who works in a lead-related occupation or who has a lead-related hobby.
Have a sibling, housemate or playmate that is lead poisoned.

This is to certify that my child:

Has never been tested for lead poisoning.
Was tested for lead poisoning on (date),
by (Name of physician).

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

PLEASE REVIEW THE INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO:

Saint Louis County Health Department
Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
621 North Hanley Road
Berkeley, MO 63134

WHY SHOULD MY CHILD BE TESTED FOR LEAD POISONING?

- Lead Poisoning is a serious problem that can cause permanent problems for *any* child, especially children under 7 years of age (including unborn children).
- Children are more likely to be exposed to lead because they have more hand-to-mouth activity and because their bodies absorb more lead than adults. They do NOT have to eat paint chips to become lead poisoned.
- Virtually all children in the United States are at risk for lead poisoning because lead is widespread in the environment. Seventy to ninety percent (70%-90%) of homes in the St. Louis area contain lead-based paint.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Missouri Department of Health recommend testing **all** children at ages 12 and 24 months. If a child has never been tested, it is recommended that they be tested at any time until 72 months of age.
- Children with lead levels greater than 9 ug/dL are likely to have lower IQ scores, slower development, and more attention or behavior problems than children with lower levels. Large numbers of U.S. children continue to have blood-lead levels in the dangerous range. **It is important to know if your child is one of them.**
- Early testing allows for identification and treatment of children with lead elevations as well as identification and reduction of environmental lead hazards before permanent damage to the developing neurological system (among others) occurs.

WE LIVE IN A NEW HOUSE. HOW WOULD MY CHILD GET LEAD POISONING?

- Children who visit an older home of friends or relatives, or an older church, school or playground may be exposed to lead-based paint hazards.
- Children may be exposed because of the occupation or hobby of an adult in the home (*such as plumber, pipe fitter, industrial equipment operator, law enforcement, auto repair, printer, construction worker, gas station attendant, pottery making, target shooting, stained glass making, home remodeling, furniture refinishing, etc.*).
- Lead has been found in such things as imported mini-blinds, candles, dishes, and sidewalk chalk among other items.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF LEAD POISONING?

- Children with lead poisoning may have no physical signs or symptoms. They may complain about things such as headache or stomachache.
- Any developmental delay may be caused by lead poisoning.

HOW CAN I PROTECT MY CHILD FROM LEAD POISONING?

- A blood test is the only way to know for sure if your child has lead poisoning.
- Keep children away from areas with chipping or peeling paint.
- Make sure children wash their hands many times each day, especially before eating, before napping or bedtime, and after playing outdoors.
- Routinely wet-mop floors and damp-dust windowsills and other horizontal surfaces. Vacuum rugs while children are out of the room.
- Wash objects that infants and children frequently put in their mouths.
- Discourage children from putting non-food items in their mouths.
- Make sure your child eats properly. The child should eat at least three meals daily. An empty stomach more readily absorbs lead. Foods rich in iron and calcium help protect the body against lead. Foods high in fat increase the absorption of lead.
- Before beginning any household remodeling or repair, contact the Saint Louis County Health Department-Lead Poisoning Prevention Program for information on how to minimize the risk of lead exposure for your child.

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Call the Saint Louis County Health Department—Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at (314) 615-5323. Our goal is to make sure that no child be permanently disabled by a preventable problem.