

To Clean Surfaces

1. Remove large paint chips and place them into a plastic trash bag.
2. Remove smaller paint chips by vacuuming, using only an industrial HEPA vacuum or misting the chips with water, then sweeping them up and putting them into a trash bag.
3. Prepare three (3) buckets. The first bucket will have the cleaning mixture in it. The second bucket will have only plain water. The third bucket will be empty so you can squeeze dirty water from the rag (or sponge) into it after you wipe down surfaces.
4. Clean one room at a time. Clean the highest surfaces first and the work your way to the floor. Always start at the farthest corner of the room and work your way to the door.

Cleaning Carpets and Rugs

- **To remove carpets for cleaning or to throw them away:** Mist the rugs with water. Roll up the carpet pads, and wrap them in plastic. If you are leaving the carpet pad in place, clean the pad like wall-to-wall carpeting (see below).
- **To clean wall-to-wall carpets:** Vacuum the rug using an industrial HEPA vacuum with the "bar beater" or "agitator" attachment. Vacuum the rug from top to bottom and then left to right. Spend about 10 minutes vacuuming a small area (2ft x 5ft).
- **To clean area rugs:** Vacuum the top of the rug with the "beater bar" or "agitator" and the HEPA vacuum as described above. Next, fold the rug in half and vacuum the back of the rug and floor normally. Do the same to the other half of the rug. Slowly vacuum the top of the rug again using the "bar beater" or "agitator" attachments.
- **To clean scatter rugs:** Wash scatter rugs in washing machine. Use a general detergent or one that is made for cleaning lead dust.

Facts About Lead Paint and Lead Dust

Use of lead paint in homes was banned in 1978. Therefore, the older your home is, the more likely it is to contain lead based paint.

Lead dust is produced from lead paint as the paint deteriorates or is disturbed.

Lead dust is so fine that it can not be seen.

Lead dust is the most common source of lead poisoning for everyone, including pets. Children, between the ages of one and two, are at the greatest risk for becoming poisoned.

By following the information in this pamphlet, you can decrease lead exposure in your home.



Additional Resources

State of Connecticut
Department of Public Health
Division of
Environmental Health
Childhood

Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
(860) 509-7299 or (860) 509-7745

Yale/New Haven Regional
Lead Treatment Center
(203) 764-9113

Hartford Regional
Lead Treatment Center
(860) 714-4792

A Property Owners Guide for the Interim Control of **LEAD HAZARDS** in Housing



Town of Wallingford
Health Department

(203)294-2065

healthed@wallingfordct.gov

Property Owner

If you own a rental property **built prior to 1978**, now is the time to investigate possible lead-based paint hazards!

In 2014, 27 children in Wallingford (under the age of 6) were exposed to lead. The majority lived in multi-family rental housing.

By knowing and understanding the risks, you can be proactive, to ensure the safety of your tenants.

Pay special attention to porches, window sills and window wells as the friction caused by opening/closing a window can produce lead-based dust. You should never dry scrape painted surfaces, this has the potential to create lead-based dust.

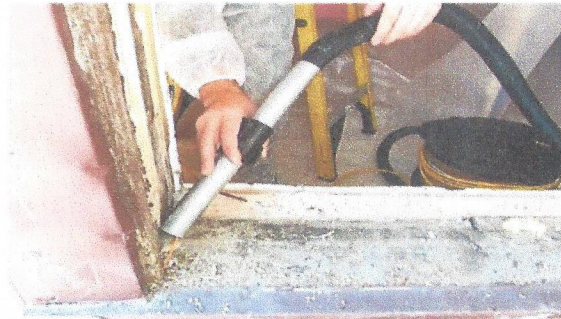
The Wallingford Health Department offers **visual assessments of property at no charge**.

This is not a comprehensive lead inspection, no paint chip samples are taken, therefore is not subject to Real Estate Disclosure Laws.

What YOU Can Do

For chipping paint and lead dust inside the property:

1. If windows have flaking or peeling paint, ask the tenants to keep those windows closed until fixed.
2. **Do NOT** dry broom or brush to clean up paint chips and flakes!
*Use a damp cloth to pick up any paint chips from floors or other flat surfaces.
3. Use tacky tape to remove loose, flaking lead paint (if area is less than one sq. ft). Repaint to seal the area.
4. Repair small holes in walls and doors with spackle and/or caulking.
5. Make sure any water leaks are fixed as they can cause more paint damage.



Outside the property:

1. Place a doormat outside of the main entrance to the apartment.
2. Cover bare soil areas in the yard with a barrier; for instance mulch and add grass.
3. Move swing sets or other children's play equipment to a part of the yard where there is no bare soil.

Before You Begin

- Pregnant women must not clean up lead dust. Lead dust can harm an unborn child.
- Remove children and pets from rooms being cleaned.
- Read the cleaning product's directions and warning labels.
- Wear old clothes and plastic gloves.
- Collect the tools needed for cleaning.

Tools for Cleaning Lead Dust

- Plastic or rubber gloves, like those used for washing dishes
- Plastic trash bags
- A mop that can be thrown away
- Three (3) plastic buckets
- Lint-free rags or sponges that can be thrown away
- A cleaning product. You can use a general purpose cleaner, or products made for cleaning lead dust
- Industrial vacuum with a **HEPA** filter.
***Do NOT** use a common household vacuum cleaner to clean lead dust. It will spread lead into the air!