



October 25-31, 2020

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week 2020



Get the Facts



Get Your Home
Tested



Get Your Child
Tested

#NLPPW2020 #LeadFreeKids



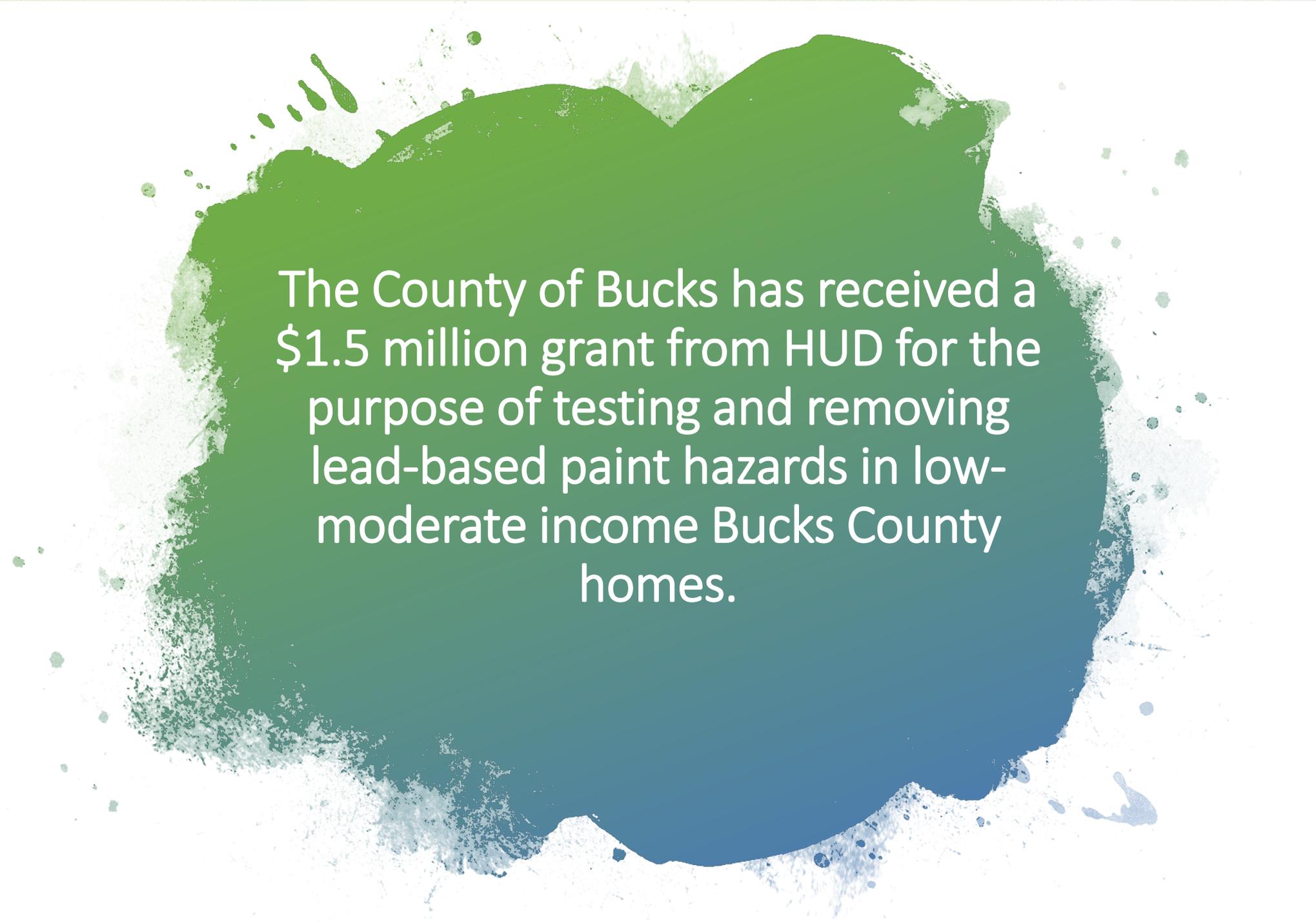
Introducing Bucks County's Lead-Based Paint Removal Program

Presented by Katey Marseglia, Project Administrator Bucks County Department of Housing and Community Development

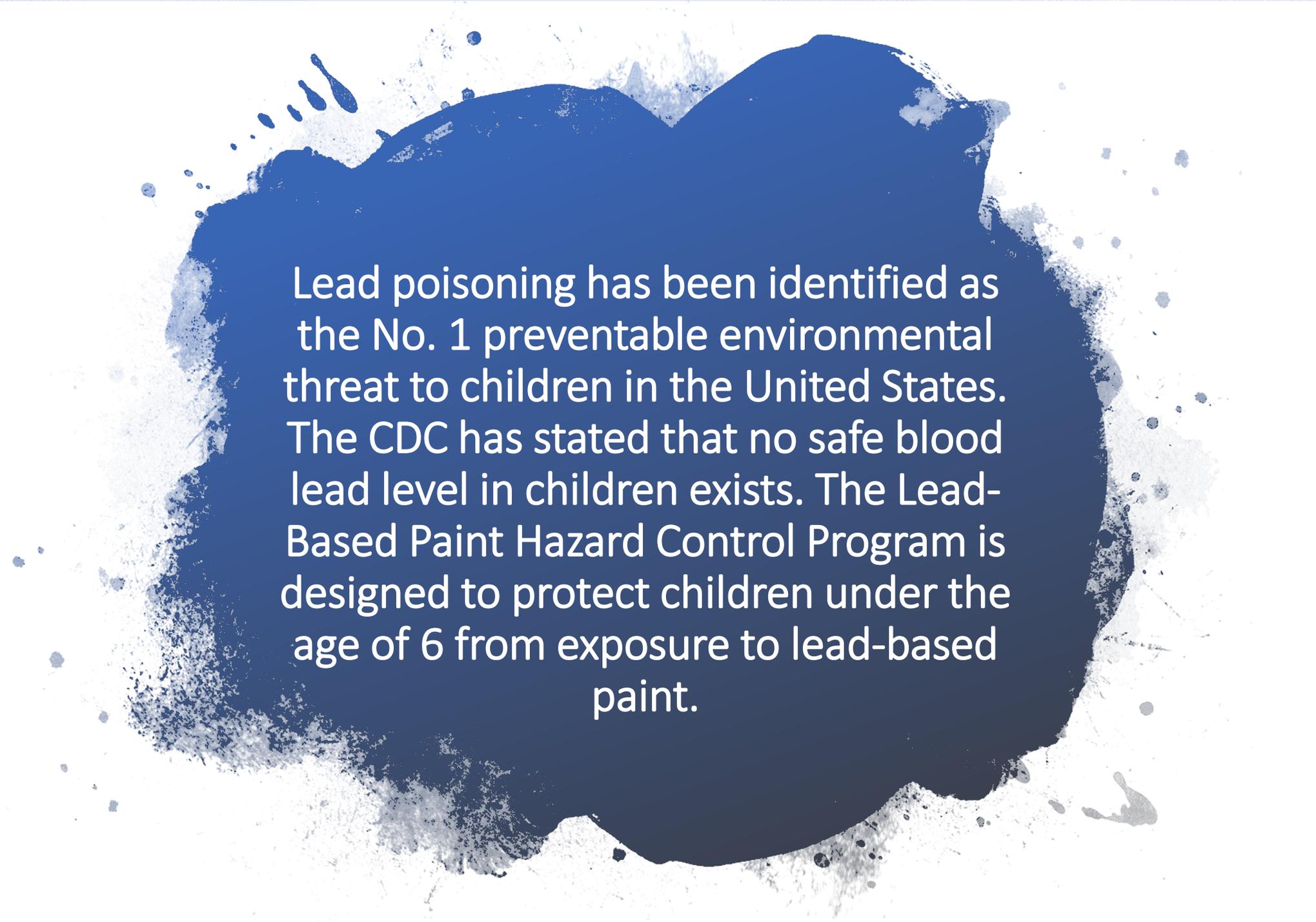
Call: 215-345-3842

Email: hcd@buckscounty.org

Visit: www.buckscounty.org/buckslead



The County of Bucks has received a \$1.5 million grant from HUD for the purpose of testing and removing lead-based paint hazards in low-moderate income Bucks County homes.



Lead poisoning has been identified as the No. 1 preventable environmental threat to children in the United States. The CDC has stated that no safe blood lead level in children exists. The Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program is designed to protect children under the age of 6 from exposure to lead-based paint.

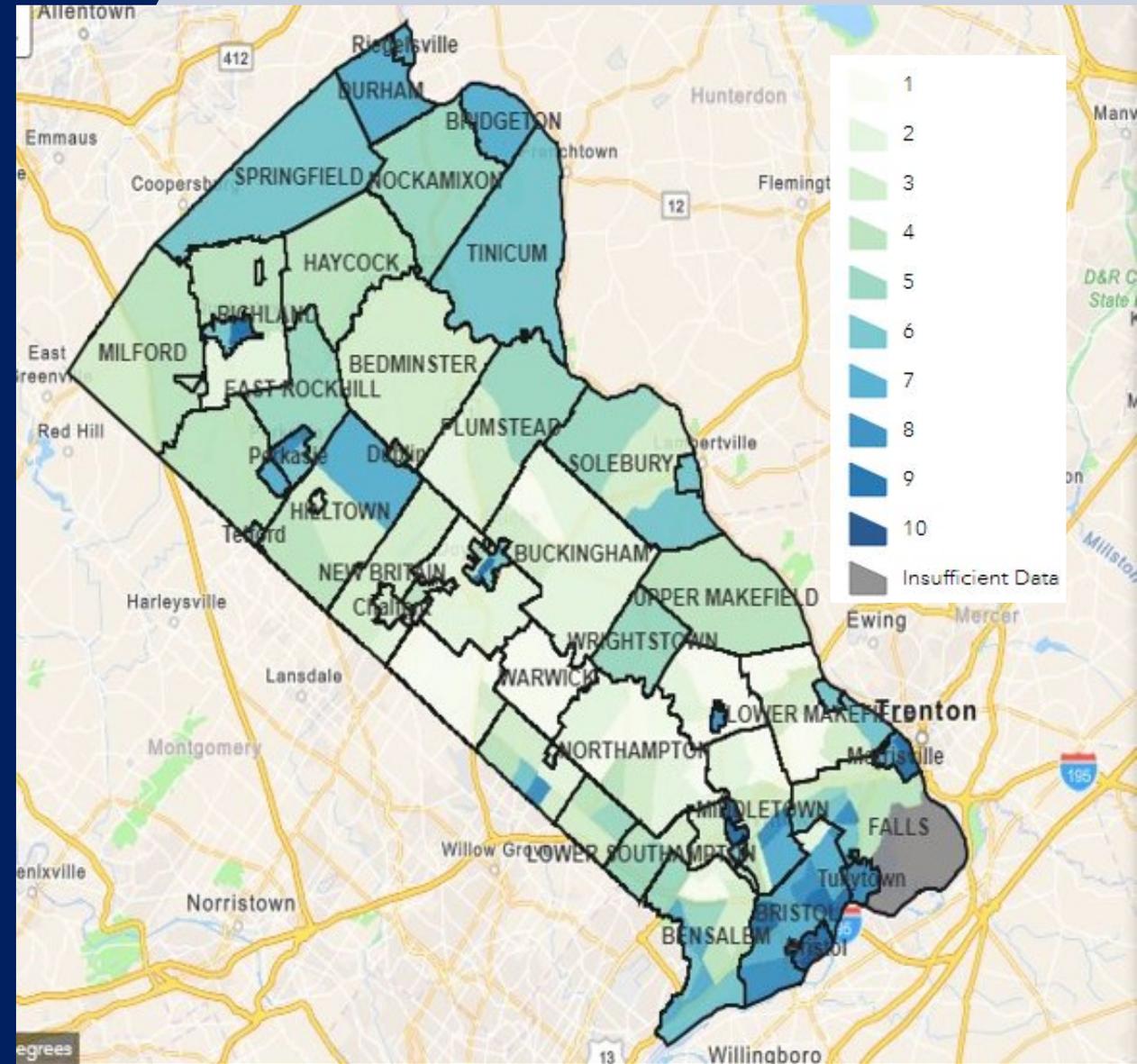
The Facts

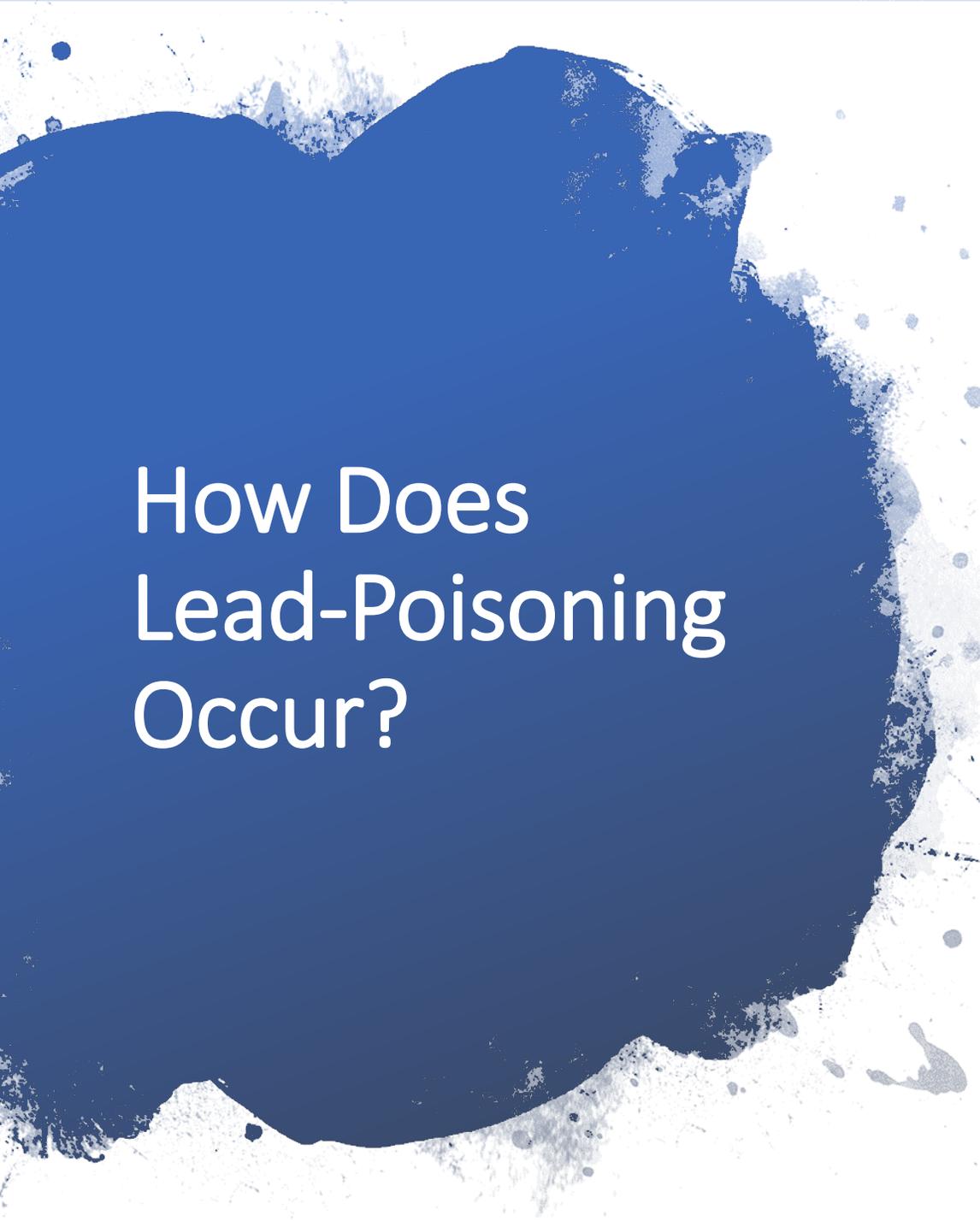
In 1978, the federal government banned consumer uses of lead-containing paint.

Lead paint is still present in millions of homes, sometimes under layers of newer paint. If the paint is in good shape, the lead paint is usually not a problem. Deteriorating lead-based paint (peeling, chipping, chalking, cracking, damaged, or damp) is a hazard and needs immediate attention.

Where are Lead-Based Paint Hazards Found?

- Any surface covered with lead-based paint where the paint may wear by rubbing or friction is likely to cause harmful lead dust including windows, doors, floors, porches, stairways, and cabinets.
- The older the home, the more likely it contains lead-based paint.
- Lead-based paint is prevalent in Bucks County's aging housing stock, particularly in the lower income municipalities of Bristol, Falls, Middletown, Morrisville, and Quakertown





How Does Lead-Poisoning Occur?

- Children can be poisoned if they chew on surfaces coated with lead-based paint, such as window-sills and door edges. Lead dust isn't always visible, but it can get on children's hands and toys and eventually make its way into their mouths.
- While most people associate the risks of lead-based paint with children ingesting paint chips, the primary causes of lead poisoning are ingesting or breathing lead contaminated dust and soil found in or around older houses.
- Lead gets into the body in many ways. Adults and children can get lead into their bodies if they:
 - Breathe in lead dust
 - Swallow lead dust that has settled on food, food preparation surfaces, and other places.
 - Eat paint chips or soil that contains lead.

What Are the Effects of Lead Poisoning?

- Often the signs are not easily seen. Individuals may experience stomachache, headache, fatigue or irritability.
- Even low levels of lead in blood have been shown to effect IQ, the ability to pay attention, and academic achievement.
- Elevated Blood Lead Levels are associated with delinquency and increased school drop-out rates.
- In rare cases, ingestion of lead can cause seizures, coma and even death.
- Once poisoned, it's for life and can never be reversed.

What Are the Effects of Lead Poisoning?

Even low levels of lead in the blood of children can result in:

- Speech, language, and behavior problems
- Brain damage
- Developmental delays
- Hearing Problems
- Anemia
- Nervous system and kidney damage
- Learning disabilities, attention-deficit disorder, and decreased intelligence
- Decreased muscle and bone growth
- Seizures
- Constipation, abdominal pain, vomiting
- Weight loss, loss of appetite



Who is Most at Risk?

Children under the age of 6.

- At this age, children's brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead.
- Children's growing bodies absorb more lead.
- Babies and young children often put their hands and other objects in their mouths. These objects can contain lead dust.

Pregnant Women

During pregnancy, lead is released from the mother's bones along with calcium and can pass from the mother exposing the fetus or the breastfeeding infant to lead. This can result in serious effects to the developing fetus and infant, including:

- The baby to be born too early or too small;
- Damage to the baby's brain, kidney's, and nervous system;
- Increase the likelihood of learning or behavioral problems; and
- Put the mother at risk for miscarriage.

What Can Be Done?

- Through the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program, qualifying Bucks County families can receive a full lead risk assessment of their home, as well as an abatement plan and abatement services.
- Improvements to homes often includes items such as new windows, doors, siding, trim, interior & exterior painting, porch repair, and other home safety measures.

Who Qualifies?

- Households with a child under 6 visiting or living in a property built prior to 1978 in Bucks County.

*The child does not have to reside with the family full time. Caregivers with a child who spends a significant amount of time in the residence (defined as at six hours per week, and a total of 60 hours a year) qualify.

- Homeowners, renters and landlords are all eligible to apply.
- Have a total household income equal to or less than 80% of the Bucks County Median Family Income based on the family size as defined by HUD.

No. in household	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Max Income	54,150	61,850	69,600	77,300	83,500	89,770	95,900	102,050

- A small amount of units assisted do not have to have a child under 6 visiting or residing in the home

Give Your Child the
Chance
of a **Lifetime**
Keep Your Child Lead-5



If you know someone who may qualify, contact:

- Phone: 215-345-3842
- Email: hcd@buckscounty.org or kmarseglia@buckscounty.org
- Visit: www.buckscounty.org/buckslead