



**The Montclair Health Department celebrates
Lead Poisoning Prevention Week
October 20th – 26th, 2019**

The Best Way to Prevent Childhood Lead Exposure is to #kNOwLEAD

As lead exposure continues to be an ongoing health challenge, it is important that parents take precautionary measures to keep their children safe and healthy. While exposure can damage a child's learning and development, it can be prevented. The Montclair Health Department in partnership with New Jersey Department of Health provides resources for parents to stay informed so child lead exposure can be avoided. The NJDOH recently launched the **#kNOwLEAD** public education campaign, which aims to increase awareness of all lead hazards in homes, schools and on the job, and also educate residents on what they can do to prevent exposure and safeguard their child's health.

The education campaign includes outreach about lead exposure to Pre Schools, Schools and Doctor offices. Lead can disrupt the normal growth and development of a child's brain and central nervous system. While lead paint in homes built before 1978 remains the largest contributor to elevated blood lead levels in children, there are many different lead exposure sources, including water from leaded pipes and imported toys, candy, spices, jewelry, cosmetics, herbal remedies, and pottery.

Additionally, the Department of Health is strengthening New Jersey's standard for intervening in cases of potential lead exposure. The Department regulations require earlier intervention when lower levels of lead are detected in a child—from 10 micrograms per deciliter of blood to between 5 and 9 micrograms. This change will enable the Montclair Health Department and medical providers to intervene with education, case management, home visits and other steps, at the earliest possible time.

To learn more, please visit Montclair Township's website under Health Department for "Lead Resources". Please call the Montclair Health Department at 973-509-4970 for more information about Montclair's upcoming lead awareness events.

**The Montclair Health Department is hosting programs this month
regarding Lead Prevention:**

- **Thursday, 10/17 - Lead Free Kids for a Healthy Future:** meet with the Montclair Health Dept. Public Health Nurses
 - Geyer Family Branch YMCA of Montclair, 11 am – 12 noon

- **Saturday, 10/19 - Lead Poisoning Prevention:** education provided by Montclair Health Dept. Public Health Nurses
 - Montclair Community Pre-K's Fall Harvest Festival, 10 am – 12 noon

- **Thursday, 10/24 - Protect your Family from Lead in the Home –** meet with the Montclair Health Dept. REHS, Registered Environmental Health Specialists
 - Geyer Family Branch YMCA of Montclair, 10 am – 11 am

- **Wednesday, 11/13 -** In partnership with Mountainside Family Practice Group, will be providing a **FREE Lead Screening** for children ages 1 – 6 years old and pregnant women who reside in Montclair, Nutley, Verona, Cedar Grove
 - Montclair Health Dept. - 205 Claremont Ave, 3rd Floor, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm
 - Please call (973) 509-4970 to schedule an appointment.