

New York Ranks #1 in the Nation for Childhood Lead Exposure



Now is the Time to End New York's Immoral Childhood Lead Crisis

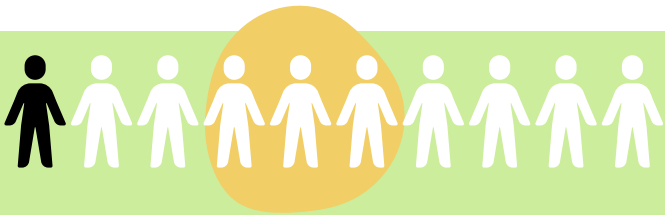
New York has no statewide system of mandatory proactive inspections of old housing likely to contain lead hazards. Instead, the state inspects homes for lead **after children have already tested positive for lead poisoning**, and relies on landlords to repair lead-poisoned housing – an often underfunded and inadequately enforced method. **Governor Hochul** and **Attorney General James** have recently voiced their commitment to tackle this crisis, so now is the time to take action to end lead exposure in New York once and for all.



Lead disproportionately impacts children of color and low-income children. The distribution of lead poisoned children along racial and socioeconomic lines affirms lead poisoning as a racial and environmental injustice



In 2017, 25 upstate counties had **higher percentages of children testing positive for lead poisoning** than in Flint, Michigan at the height of its crisis



In Syracuse, **one out of ten children** have elevated blood lead levels



In Buffalo, children in predominantly Black and Latino neighborhoods are **12x more likely** to get lead poisoning than children in white neighborhoods



www.leadfreekidsny.org

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook: @LeadFreeKidsNY



"My 3-year-old was exposed to lead in my apartment. I have had to worry about the effects because children who are exposed to lead, a neurotoxin, are at high risk for delays in growth and speech, learning disabilities, organ failure, and even death. Lead exposure at a young age can ruin our children's lives before they truly begin."

-Enoshja Ruffin, Impacted Parent & Citizen Action of New York Member

What Can We Do About NYS' Lead Crisis?

Pass Important Legislation in the 2023 State Session

Renovation, Repair and Painting Act

S.2191 (Bailey) / A.434 (Bronson)

Directs the State to take over implementation and enforcement of federal EPA rules for training, certification of contractors to ensure lead-safe Renovation, Repair, and Painting projects. This comes with income for the state in the form of certification program fees and an EPA grant. It is essential now to ensure that as landlords must conduct upkeep and repairs to be certified "lead safe" under the budget provision, that they or the contractors they hire conduct such actions in ways that prevent the spread of lead-tainted dust.

Lead Pipe Right to Know Act

S.5512 (Rivera, **PASSED**) / A.6115 (Paulin)

The second most common pathway to lead exposure behind paint is through drinking water. This bill requires each water utility to determine which service lines in its system are made of lead. It also requires the New York State Department of Health to make an inventory publicly available and create interactive maps.

Lead Based Paint Disclosure Act

S.2353 (Kavanagh) / A.4820 (JD.Rivera)

Requires sellers or lessors of pre-1978 housing to test for the presence of lead paint and disclose that to buyers. If testing isn't done, buyers have the right to test before the sale is final. This is an essential backdrop to the inspection and certification programs in budget (Part T), because it increases demand for tests supporting those businesses, and creates a statewide record of lead-painted properties for use in the inspection program.

Landlord Insurance For Lead Based Paint

S.88 (Ryan) / A.1687 (JD.Rivera, **PASSED**)

Requires landlord insurance companies to include lead poisoning coverage for tenants, to help cover tenant medical bills and other lead-exposure related expenses and damages



WE ACT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

1854 Amsterdam Avenue, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10031 | 212-961-1000

50 F Street, NW, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20001 | 202-495-3036

Web: weact.org | Facebook: [weactforej](https://www.facebook.com/weactforej) | Twitter: [weact4ej](https://twitter.com/weact4ej) | Instagram: [weact4ej](https://www.instagram.com/weact4ej)

Questions? Email Briana Carbajal
at briana.carbajal@weact.org

Last updated: 1/31/2023