



What tenants need to know about **PHILADELPIA'S LEAD SAFE RENTAL LAW**

Lead poisoning is caused by swallowing or breathing lead. Children under 6 years old are most at risk. If you are pregnant, lead can harm your baby.

FACT: Lead can cause serious learning and behavior problems.

- Lead poisoning hurts the brain and nervous system.
- Lead in a child's body can make it hard to pay attention and learn.
- Some of the effects of lead poisoning may never go away.

FACT: Most children get lead poisoning from chipping and peeling paint and lead dust in homes built before 1978.

- When old paint cracks and peels, it makes dangerous dust.
- The dust is so small you cannot see it. Children get lead poisoning when they breathe or swallow the dust on their hands and toys.

FACT: Philadelphia landlords must make sure homes do not have lead paint or lead dust that can harm children who are living there.

- It is illegal to refuse to rent to families with children.

New Renters with Children 6 and Under Renting in Homes Built Before 1978

Your Landlord Must:

1. Give you a certificate saying the property is lead safe or lead free.
Tenants have to sign the certificate to prove they saw it.
2. Give a copy of the certificate you signed to the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, for us to hold on file.
3. Give you the EPA brochure, "Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home."
4. Repair or remove any chipping and peeling paint and clean up lead poisoned dust.

What You Can Do:

1. **Check your home for chipping and peeling paint.**
 - Tell your landlord so he or she can make repairs.
2. **Keep children away from lead paint and dust.**
 - Use wet paper towels or sponge to clean up lead dust. Be sure to clean around windows, play areas, and floors.
 - Use soap and water to wash hands and toys often, especially before eating and sleeping.
 - Use contact paper or duct tape to cover chipping or peeling paint until it is repaired.
3. **Get your children tested for lead.**
 - A lead test is the only way to know if your child has lead poisoning.
 - Most children with lead poisoning do not look or act sick.
 - Ask your doctor to test your child for lead.
4. **Learn more about lead poisoning and the law.**
 - Call the Philadelphia Department of Health at 215-685-2788.

**It is against the law to refuse to rent to families with children.
For help, call the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations at 215 686-4670.**