Community Resources

Green & Healthy Homes Initiative®
Detroit-Wayne County

GHHI Detroit-Wayne County is a collaborative dedicated to creating green, healthy and safe homes for children and families in Detroit and Wayne County.

To find out if you qualify for the following services call 313-473-7566

- Lead Abatement Grants
- Home Repair Loans
- Utility and/or Water Assistance
- Refrigerator Replacement
- Free Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors
- Home Safety Products and Education
- Energy Efficiency Education
- Asthma & Allergy Management

To learn more about CURES, contact Brian Smith at 313-577-5045 or brian.smith9@wayne.edu

Research

Dr. Doug Ruden leads a team of scientists at Wayne who test blood samples to study the way lead impacts people. His team found that babies are impacted by moms who were exposed to lead. “The way you think about it is: if a mother is pregnant with a baby, she’s also carrying the baby’s children too” Ruden says. “It’s like Russian nesting dolls.”

We asked Doug, if you could send one message to Detroiters based on what you know about lead, what would you say? “All kids under the age of 6 should be tested for lead.” High lead levels may not show symptoms for awhile, but once you know lead is a problem, you can take steps to address it. Contact the Lead Safe Home Program at 313-924-4000 or 866-691-5323 for details.

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How to Protect Your Family and Home

1. Have Your Home Tested for Lead
   • If your home was built before 1978 and you have a child under the age of 6 living there you may qualify for free help.
   Contact the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Lead Safe Home Program at 313-924-4000 or 866-691-5323.

2. Keep Children Away from Chipping Paint and Dust
   • Use wet towels to remove dust. Be extra careful when cleaning play areas, and around windows and floors.
     • Use soap and water to clean hands and toys often.
     • Use contact paper or duct tape to cover chipping or peeling paint.

3. Repair your Home Safely
   • Keep children and pregnant women away from work areas where sanding or scraping may happen. These can release lead particles into the air, which are dangerous if inhaled or touched.
   • FOR MORE INFORMATION contact Brian Smith at Wayne State University: 313-577-5045.

CLEAN SAFE

Directions for mopping floors:
• Fill one bucket with soapy water, and another with water to rinse the mop.
• Start mopping in corners farthest from the door and work your way back toward the door.
• Rinse the mop often.
• Change water often so you don’t spread dirt around the floor.

Directions for window sills & surfaces:
• Spray window sills with cleaning solution from a spray bottle
• Clean from top to bottom.
• Wipe with paper towel.
• Change paper towel often.

Questions about lead in soil? We can help! See our fact sheet on gardening.