

Lead Prevention Quarterly Newsletter

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE
Extension

Family and Consumer Sciences

Volume 1 Number 2

2005

Web sites to
check out:

Environmental
Protection Agency
www.epa.gov/lead/

Agency for Toxic
Substances and
Disease Registry
[www.atsdr.cdc.gov/
tfacts13.html](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/tfacts13.html)

For questions about
the lead program
please contact:

Courtney Niemann, MS
Extension Assistant
119 Morgan Hall
Knoxville, TN
37996-4501

Office 865-974-8178

Fax 865-974-5370

cniemann@utk.edu

Some Common Myths about Lead

Eating a single paint chip causes lead poisoning.

False: Lead poisoning develops after repeated exposures to substances containing small amounts of lead, such as paint chips, dust, soil or eating from lead-glazed dishes. Since 1977, paints produced in the United States do not contain lead.



Eating pencil lead causes lead poisoning.

False: Pencil "lead" is now made of graphite, which contains no lead.

There is no way to prevent children from being lead poisoned.

False: Lead poisoning is completely preventable. Get the facts and learn how to protect children by getting lead out of homes safely.

Only children who live in the inner city can be poisoned by lead.

False: Any child can be lead poisoned. Lead paint may be found in any home built before 1978.

Only children with very high levels of lead in their blood will be hurt by lead.

False: Even relatively low levels of lead in a child's blood can cause long-term problems and permanently affect learning and behavior.

UPDATE-New Focus for CDC and Lead Poisoning

During the month of April, I attended a Primary Prevention training offered by CDC. CDC is moving its primary focus from children to housing. What this means is that the promotional items purchased will be focused more on housing. Other items for children will still be available. As new items are purchased, the lead order form will be revised and sent to you. Please remember to fill out the order form when requesting these items. If you should have requests for items, please let me know and I will see what I can do.