



**District Health  
Department #10**  
Healthy People, Healthy Communities



## WHEN BUYING A HOME, ASK ABOUT LEAD

April 10, 2024 – District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) is encouraging home buyers to remember to “Ask About Lead” when buying a new home.

If you are buying a home this home buying season, make sure to ask about lead. Most homes built before 1978 (especially homes built throughout the 1940s to 1960s), may contain lead-based paint, which can have a dangerous effect on the health of young children (under the age of six) and pregnant women.

If you already own a home, look for signs of lead-based paint. If you see walls, furniture, or windowsills in your home with chipping or peeling paint, that could be an indicator of lead-based paint. Lead-based paint is unsafe if it peels, chips, or cracks. Harmful lead dust is created when windows, doors, edges of stairs, rails, or other lead-based painted surfaces wear away over time.

“You or your landlord can get your home checked for lead by hiring a trained, certified professional,” said DHD#10 Public Health Educator Shaun O’Connor. “Many young children put their hands or other objects covered with lead dust in their mouths, which can cause serious damage to their health. Be sure to wash children’s hands, bottles, pacifiers, and toys often.”

Learn more about lead-testing services and lead remediation options available in Michigan by visiting: <https://www.michigan.gov/mileadsafe>.

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### MEDIA CONTACT

Nicholas Eckhart  
Public Information Officer  
O: 616-500-0246  
C: 575-405-9082  
E: neckhart@dhd10.org



### COUNTIES SERVED:

Crawford  
Kalkaska  
Lake  
Manistee  
Mason  
Mecosta  
Missaukee  
Newaygo  
Oceana  
Wexford



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