



## Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

“As Attorney General, I work each day toward creating safer communities for children – communities in which parents feel confident that their kids are safe from school violence, sex offenders, and even online predators. However, children also face an equally serious threat from a less obvious culprit: lead.”

Attorney General Lisa Madigan

### **Is Lead Poisoning a Serious Danger to the Health and Safety of My Kids?**

The dangers of lead poisoning are very real. Most harmful to children ages six and younger, lead poisoning can cause irreversible neurological damage, intelligence loss, attention disorders, and behavioral and other developmental problems.

### **How Are Children Exposed to Lead Poisoning?**

Children are most commonly exposed to lead poisoning through lead-based paint in older homes. Although lead-based paint was banned for use in housing in 1978, homes built before the ban may still contain the leaded paint. Poisoning most often occurs as a result of children inhaling or ingesting either lead dust or paint chips.

Children may also be exposed to lead contained in children’s products. While accessible lead in consumer products has been banned, discoveries of both accessible lead and lead paint in or on children’s toys and clothing have prompted millions of unit recalls.

### **How Can I Find Out if My Child Has Lead Poisoning?**

For the most part, unless lead poisoning is very severe, symptoms are rare. It is virtually impossible to detect without a blood test.

### **What Can I Do to Protect My Children from Lead?**

Lead poisoning is completely preventable. You can protect your children by following some basic guidelines:

- Get your children, ages six months through six years, tested for lead each year.
- If you live in an older home, have it inspected for lead. Call the Illinois Department of Public Health’s Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 1-800-545-2200.
- Regularly wet clean floors, windowsills, and other surfaces. Take off shoes before entering the house.
- Wash children’s hands before they eat, after they play outside, and before they go to sleep.
- Find out if you have any recalled products in your home. A list of recalled products is available at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov). You can also visit [www.KidsInDanger.org](http://www.KidsInDanger.org) for more information on recalled products.
- Stay up-to-date on recalled products. You can sign up to receive e-mail notification of recalls at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov). Kids In Danger also sends out monthly e-mail alerts, which you can sign up for by visiting [www.KidsInDanger.org](http://www.KidsInDanger.org) or calling 312-595-0649.

### **Where Can I Get More Information?**

If you would like to know more about lead poisoning and the presence of lead in children’s products, Kids In Danger, a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring the safety of children’s products, has released an important report titled, *Playing With Poison: Lead Poisoning Hazards of Children’s Product Recalls 1990-2004*.

*Playing With Poison* provides information about the causes of lead poisoning and its harmful effects on children; ways to protect your family from lead; details on children’s products recalled for lead; and recommendations to help keep products with lead from ever reaching our kids. *Playing With Poison* can be obtained in its entirety at [www.KidsInDanger.org](http://www.KidsInDanger.org). The recall list on the back of this sheet was excerpted from that report.

**Children's Products Recalled for Lead Hazard  
1990 – 2005**

For more information, find complete recall information on these products at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) or call Kids In Danger at 312-595-0649. These are specific products; this list does not imply that all of the named products by these manufacturers have been recalled. Check the recall notice for dates of manufacture and sale and model numbers as appropriate.

A & A Global metal toy jewelry sold in vending machines A.J. Cohen Distributors 64 crayons Advantage Publishers educational kits Alpha Int'l Inc. (Gearbox) 17 models of pedal cars Bargain Wholesale 64 crayons, kidz biz Baum Imports 64 crayons Brand Imports children's rings Brand Imports metal toy jewelry sold in vending machine Cardinal Distributing Co. metal toy jewelry sold in vending machine Charming Shoppers Inc. children's necklaces Concord Enterprises 12 jumbo crayons Direct Source plastic Halloween candy buckets Disney Princess bracelet keyrings (Monogram) Disney World children's sunglasses/cap set Dollar General metal heart-shaped pendants Dollar General necklace and earring set Dynamic Division of Agora super jumbo crayons Dynamic Division of Agora Int'l 8 crayons Edna Products Co. animal shape wagons Effanbee Doll Co. miniature rocking chairs EMSCO Inc. children's toy brooms Front Porch Classics old century dread pirate game Gap Kids spring/summer anoraks Glory Stationery Manufacturing Co. crayons Gymboree children's umbrellas Hidden Hills Maptangle floor mat game Hirschberg Schutz metal charms HIS International denim jumper sets Jaclyn Barney bags, beach bags and backpacks Kindermusik Int'l lily pad clacker instruments Kipp Brothers 12 crayons	Kmart Corp. infant girls rompers L.M. Becker & Co. metal toy jewelry sold in vending machine L.M. Becker & Co. toy necklaces Learning Curve Int'l two different activity toys Little Tikes crib centers M. Grumbacher paintbrushes Marx Brush Manufacturing paintbrush set McDonalds & Bobbie Dreams Bobble head figures Meco Corp. Children's Furniture Set: red chairs Mervyn's California children's picnic sets Midwest Importers wooden bead jewelry NIKE little Air Jordan sneakers Oriental Trading Co. wooden beads on cord and spinning tops Oscar Mayer Foods Corp. wienermobile pedal cars Overseas United fun times 72 crayons PJ Toys children's furniture Polymeric paint kits Pyramid Accessories Mulan backpacks & luggage Radio Flyer little wooden wagons Raymond Geddes Co children's metallic necklaces Riviera Trading metallic costume bracelets Safan Ltd. magnet games Shakespeare children's fishing poles Target (Agglo Corp) multicolored sidewalk chalk Toys "R" Us (Agglo Corp) sidewalk chalk Toys "R" Us 48 Crayons U.S. Toy Co. puzzles Universal Int'l 64 crayons Walmart Stores Nu-tronix Karaoke Players Wear Me Apparel infant boys rompers XL Machine Ltd. dollhouse bathroom furniture Zebco children's fishing poles
--	--

*please visit*

**[www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov)**

**Chicago**

100 West Randolph Street  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312) 814-3000  
TTY: (312) 814-3374

**Springfield**

500 South Second Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
(217) 782-1090  
TTY: (217) 785-2771

**Carbondale**

1001 East Main Street  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
(618) 529-6400/6401  
TTY: (618) 529-6403