

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland
LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK
OCTOBER 20 - 26, 2024

- WHEREAS,** *Even in low amounts, lead poisoning interferes with normal brain development, can cause irreversible brain damage, and is associated with permanently reduced IQ, learning disabilities, behavioral disorders, and has been cited as an indicator of decreased lifelong learning potential; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Lead exposure disproportionately affects racially and ethnically diverse communities and low-income populations who live in older housing that contains deteriorated paint, which should be examined as an environmental justice concern; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland celebrates 30 years of preventing childhood lead poisoning by ensuring all pre-1978 rental properties are lead-safe; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland encourages all healthcare providers to test all pregnant women and children at ages 1 and 2 years, or when exposure is suspected, for lead; and*
- WHEREAS,** *To better protect Maryland children, Maryland now initiates medical and environmental case management for all children under the age of 6 years of age who are diagnosed with a blood lead level of greater than or equal to 3.5 micrograms per deciliter; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland ensures that all contractors who perform lead abatement work in a lead-safe manner to protect the public from lead exposure.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 20 - 26, 2024 as LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this observation to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 20th day of October
Two Thousand and twenty-four

Wes Moore
Governor

Aruna Miller

Lt. Governor

Susan C. Lee

Secretary of State