

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

1800 Washington Boulevard · Suite 610 · Baltimore Maryland 21230-1719

410-537-3304 · 800-633-6101 · www.mde.maryland.gov



November 7, 2024
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. ·
Hybrid Meeting
Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission
Distributed Meeting Material Cover Page

- Cover Page
- Agenda - November
- Minutes - October
- Membership
- Meeting Schedule 2025
- MDE Lead Commission Reporting Calendar 2025
- MD Lead Commission gross-davis 11-7-24 pptx
- Maryland Lead Commission PP Presentation-EPA Lead Dust Standards 11-7-24

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

November 7, 2024 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Hybrid Meeting

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks
- Approval of Minutes – October 2024
- Old & New Business
 - Commissioner Membership Appointment Updates (Wendy Phillips)
 - 2025 Commission Meeting Calendar (Commissioners)
 - 2025 Commission Reporting Calendar (Commissioners)
 - EPA's efforts on "Get the Lead Out" Campaign (EPA Region 3 Environmental Justice Coordinator Carol Ann Gross-Davis)
- Agency Hot Topics/Current Events
 - **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Fred Banks
 - **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Dr. Cliff Mitchell
 - **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Dr. Michael Ichniowski
 - **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul
 - **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration) Benita Cooper
 - **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Nicola Tran
 - **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Nicole Hart
 - **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): JulieDiGirolamo
 - **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton
- Commissioner Comments and Updates
- Public Comments and Updates
- Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, January 2, 2025, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:
 - Legislation (Subcommittee)
 - 2025 Commission Meeting Calendar Discussion/Motion to vote (Commissioners)
 - 2025 Commission Reporting Calendar vote (Commissioners)
 - Updates on Lead Testing in Schools: (WSA/Water Supply Program/Tim Rule)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION October 3, 2024 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting Draft Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Susan Kleinhammer
Cliff Mitchell

Paula Montgomery
Barbara Moore

Ruth Ann Norton
Manjula Paul
Adam Skolnik

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar
Jacob Benzaquen

Benita Cooper
Senator Jill Carter

Anna Davis
Christina Peusch

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE
Adewole Adegborioye-MDE
Fred Banks-MDE
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE
Denifah Bun-Tejan-MDE
Chris Corzine-OAG
Marjorie D' Ambrosio-MDE
Jack Daniels-MDDHCD
Leslie Delcid-MDE
Julie DiGirolamo-BCHD
Samantha DiNatale-UMBC
William Doyle-HCHD
Shamola Dye-MDE
Attilah Edges-MDE

Carlie Furtaw-GHHI
Catherine Goughnour-MD-DHCD
Felicia Graves-MDE
Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD
Naadiya Hutchinson-YGG
Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD
Eunice Johnson-GES
Dawn Joy-AMA
Samantha Keane-MDE
Wade McCord-MDE
Joy McFadden-GHHI
Shadia Musa-GHHI
Alexandra Nestadt-Public
Olumide Olorunnishola-Public
Adonna Patterson-MDH

Wendy Phillips-MDE
Kathleen Rhinebolt-MDE
Johnette Richardson-GHHI
Andrew Roelke-MDE
Tim Rule-MDE
Nancy Servatius-MDH
Sandra Simmons-SHHI
Kevin Stanley-MDE
George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
Nicola Tran-MD-DHCD
Chris White-ARC
Latesha White-MDE
Thelonious Williams - MDH

Documents Distributed:

- 241003 Agenda
- 240905 Meeting Minutes
- MDE Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Membership
- HUD Seeking Input on EBLL Threshold

Welcome and Introductions:

Commissioner Chair Ruth Ann Norton, President and Chief Executive Officer for the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI), called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Adam Skolnik, Executive Director for the Maryland Multi-Housing Association, Inc., seconded by Commissioner Dr. Cliff Mitchell, Health Bureau Director for the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to accept the September 5, 2024 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old & New Business:

- **Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Announcement and Awards Presentation:** Yearly, the Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission aims to recognize excellence, innovation, and leadership from within the Lead Poisoning Prevention community. The Commission members voted amongst the nominees previously submitted and the following nominees received an award:
 - Wendy Boone was awarded with the Outstanding Child Health Environmental Advocate Award 2024
 - Delegate Sandy Rosenberg was awarded Outstanding Advocate Award 2024
 - Susan Kleinhammer was awarded Special Recognition Award 2024
- **Commissioner Membership Updates:** Recently appointed Commissioners: Nicoel Hart, Naadia Hutchinson, and Alexandra Nestadt introduced themselves to the Commission and told us a little of their background. Wendy Phillips, Director's Office Administrative Officer III for the Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Land and Materials Administration updated the status of various Commissioner positions as follows:
 - Appointed Commissioners needing to swear in: Nicole Hart, Naadia Hutchinson, Alexandra Nestadt
 - Pending Appointments: Nicola Tran, Fred Banks, House Member, Senate Member
 - Pending Re-Appointments: Ruth Ann Norton, Barbara Moore, Anna Davis
 - Commissioner Resignations: Dr. Paul Rogers
 - Vacant Positions: American Academy of Pediatrics, MD Chapter and Representative of Owner of rental property built after 1949.
- **Update on Just Communities:** Catherine Goughnour from the Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD) introduced the new Division of Just Communities, established under the Just Communities Act signed in April 2024. This division's goal is to identify "just communities"—areas in Maryland historically impacted by racial segregation, disinvestment, and environmental hazards. The designation will help prioritize state funding to improve racial, economic, and health equity. To determine these areas, MD-DHCD will analyze various indicators, including property values, housing conditions, and health risks. They are collaborating with local universities and utilizing federal tools like the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) screening methods to refine this "just communities" map. They also aim to develop a displacement risk tool to anticipate impacts of reinvestment and ensure data accessibility for state agencies and community stakeholders. Ms. Goughnour provided a description of how MD-DHCD's mapping for housing, equity, and lead relates to the EPA's distressed communities map. During the presentation the following links were shared with the Commission.
 - [House Bill 241 Housing and Community Development - Just Community Designation](#)
 - [Just Communities website and FAQ](#)
 - [Maryland Environmental and Health Data Portal](#)
- **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Revision to Elevated Blood Lead Threshold (EBLL)** Chair Norton provided a hand out to the Commission titled "HUD Seeking Input on Revision to EBLL Threshold". Chair Norton explained that HUD intends to revise its EBLL thresholds to meet the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) threshold level of 3.5 for children under the age of six, consistent with the CDC standards of reference level and there will be an impact of moving to 3.5. Comments are due April 11, 2024 and GHHI is writing comments and will be happy to share with the Commission when completed. Wes Stewart, Senior Advisor and General Counsel/Maryland Programs Director for GHHI provided the following link: [HUD Public Comments Requested on Proposed Lowering of EBLL Threshold under Lead Safe Housing Rule](#)

- **Updates on Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/20/24 - 10/26/24:**

- Commissioner Paula Montgomery, Lead Outreach and Education Coordinator for MDE Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LPPP) shared that multiple Maryland health departments, along with the Baltimore City Health Department, have been meeting weekly to plan for Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, which starts on October 20, 2024. This year's focus will not only highlight federal messages on lead prevention but also celebrate the 30th anniversary of the 1994 Lead Risk Reduction in Housing Act. This law aimed to prevent childhood lead poisoning while preserving affordable housing in older rental properties by requiring specific safety treatments. Lead Poisoning Prevention Week includes a range of activities: a press event on October 21 at 1:00 p.m. in Baltimore, followed by a community gathering, and a lead-awareness event in Prince George's County later in the week. A social media campaign will also run throughout the week, focusing on lead testing for children and expanding awareness to pregnant women or women planning to become pregnant, with a different theme each day.
- Shadia Musa, Outreach and Education Manager from GHHI announced that a press conference and Community Day will be held on Monday, October 21, with the press event from 1:00 to 1:45 p.m. at Baltimore Unity Hall in Baltimore City, followed by Community Day from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Utah Meridian Park. This event will include educational activities on lead poisoning prevention, such as a "lunch and learn" in partnership with Prince George's County and a school tour in Baltimore featuring "Derek the Dinosaur" to educate families and students. Additionally, GHHI is planning a canvassing effort with Young, Gifted, and Green to promote lead pipe testing.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE (Maryland Department of the Environment):** Fred Banks, Program Manager for MDE's LPPP reported that LPPP is concluding a large round of violation notices, leading to a high volume of phone calls. Community response has been strong, with many property owners registering their properties and updating their compliance. He also mentioned collaborating with Baltimore City on a few challenging cases.
- **MDH (Maryland Department of Health) Commissioner Dr. Mitchell** shared that MDH is actively collaborating with MD-DHCD and Medicaid on complex lead abatement and home renovation projects under the Healthy Homes for Healthy Kids program. They are also updating promotional materials and exploring ways to use Medicaid and The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) funds for lead abatement in owner-occupied homes, particularly in rural areas like Washington County and the Eastern Shore, where resources are more limited. In addition, MDH is updating the Environmental Public Health Tracking portal with new data from the childhood lead registry. Dr. Mitchell noted that lead and asthma case detection rates have returned to pre-COVID levels as more people resume regular medical care.
- **MSDE/OCC (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care):** Commissioner Manjula Paul, Nurse Consultant for MSDE's Division of Early Childhood OCC reported that, following an August listening session for licensed childcare providers, there has been an increase in calls about children who missed lead testing during COVID and are now entering pre-K programs. She shared news about the informal childcare program, where family members serve as unlicensed yet approved childcare providers, receiving scholarships if they qualify. This year, around 200 families in the informal childcare program must submit lead screening forms for their children. Chair Paul has been conducting training sessions on lead screening and safety for these providers and families, which will conclude this evening.

- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Nicola Tran, Director of Housing and Building Energy Programs for MD-DHCD shared that efforts are underway to streamline access to both repair and energy programs, allowing applicants to use a single process to apply for both types of funding. The website is being updated to better reflect this integration, with the new version expected to launch within a month. Additionally, they have applied for federal funding through HUD's Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program to expand lead remediation efforts and are awaiting a response.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development):
 - Nicole Hart, Deputy Commissioner, Homeownership & Housing Preservation, announced that BC-DHCD is holding its second Town Hall meeting as part of creating Baltimore's first citywide housing plan. These meetings aim to present actions, share data-driven results, and involve the community in the planning process. The upcoming meeting will be held in person at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and online this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., with details available on BC-DHCD's website. She also mentioned ongoing work on a strategy to reduce vacant properties and introduced a new Assistant Commissioner. Ms. Hart provided the following website links:
 - <https://dhcd.baltimorecity.gov/your-voice-matters>
 - <https://dhcd.baltimorecity.gov/events/citywide-housing-plan-town-hall-0>
 - <https://dhcd.baltimorecity.gov/news/news/2024-10-01-mayor-scott-council-president-mosby-introduce-affordable-housing-tif>
 - <https://dhcd.baltimorecity.gov/news/news/2024-07-17-mayor-scott-dhcd-announces-effort-establish-citys-first-ever-comprehensive>
 - Katherine Taylor, Director of Lead Hazard Reduction Program shared that BC-DHCD has applied for HUD's new Lead Hazard Reduction Grant to expand lead remediation efforts in Baltimore City and is awaiting the award decision. BC-DHCD currently has an active grant making good progress and is working to add more contractors to accelerate the work. They have also been participating in community events and recently updated their flyers and brochures to be available in five different languages.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Julie DiGirolamo, Director of Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, mentioned that her team is preparing for "Lead Week." A key activity will be testing at their immunizations clinic on Thursday, the 24th, at 1200 Fayette Street. They are focused on promoting this event.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Chair Norton announced that GHHI has received a contract worth over \$400,000, approved by the Board of Public Works on October 6, 2024. This contract aims to reinstate legal and tenant counseling services under Maryland's Lead Risk Reduction and Housing Law. GHHI will promptly begin efforts to hire a legal services attorney who will advocate for families and children, ensure effective law enforcement, and help tenants understand their rights and responsibilities.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Adam Skolnik, Executive Director at the Maryland Multi-Housing Association, Inc., made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Barbara Moore, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital, seconded the motion. All Commissioners were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: November 7, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- 2025 Commission Meeting Calendar (Commissioners)
- 2025 Commission Reporting Calendar (Commissioners)
- EPA's efforts on "Get the Lead Out" Campaign (EPA Region 3 Environmental Justice Coordinator, Carol Ann Gross-Davis)
- Updates on Lead Testing in Schools: (WSA/Water Supply Program/Tim Rule)

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Maryland Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Membership

Category	Current Member and Represented Organization	Term End Date ¹
Member of the House	Delegate Dalya Attar	Serves at the pleasure of the House Speaker
Member of the Senate	Senator Mary Washington	Serves at the pleasure of the Senate President
1.Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Secretary or designee	Fred Banks	10/01/28
2.Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Secretary or designee	Cliff Mitchell	09/30/25
3.Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD) Secretary or designee	Pending Appointment Nicola Tran	09/30/27
4.Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) Commissioner or designee	Benita Cooper	09/30/27
5.Director of Early Childhood Development Division, State Department of Education (MSDE), or the Director's designee	Manjula Paul	09/30/26
6.Representative of local government	Nicole Hart	10/01/28
7.Representative from a nonprofit organization	Pending Re-Appointment Ruth Ann Norton, Green and Healthy Homes Initiative, Lead Commission Chair	09/30/24
8.American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter	Pending Appointment Dr. Michael Ichniowski	
9.Representative of owners of rental property located in Baltimore City built before 1950	Jacob Benzaquen, JBZ Management	09/30/27
10.Representative of owners of rental property located outside Baltimore City built before 1950	Adam Skolnik, Maryland Multi Housing Association	09/30/26
11.Representative of owners of rental property built after 1949	Vacant	Vacant
12.Representative of a child health or youth advocacy group	Naadia Hutchinson	10/01/28
13.Health care provider	Pending Re-Appointment Barbara Moore, Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital	09/30/23
14.Child advocate	Pending Appointment/Re-Appointment Anna L. Davis, Of Counsel Gordon, Wolf & Carney, Chtd.	09/30/23
15.Parent of a lead poisoned child	Alexandra Nestadt	10/10/25
16.Lead hazard identification professional	Susan Kleinhammer, LeadTec Services, Inc.	09/30/26
17.Representative of child care providers	Christina Peusch, Maryland State Child Care Association	09/30/25

¹ Members whose term end dates have passed are continuing to serve until a successor is appointed/re-appointed..

Maryland Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Membership Continued

Composition

The Commission categories are established by statute. Md. Code Ann., Envir. § 6-807. All positions, with the exception of the member of the House and the member of the Senate are appointed by the Governor. The terms of the Governor's appointees are four years but a member at the end of his/her term continues to serve until a successor is appointed. The Governor appoints the Chair from among the members. There is no statutory term for the chairmanship.

Recent Changes to Lead Commission Membership

In May of 2020, Senate Bill 18 (SB18) was passed in Maryland. SB 18 alters the membership of the Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission to include one representative each from a nonprofit focused on lead poisoning prevention issues and the American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter; removed the Commission members representing a premises liability coverage insurer and a financial institution that makes loans secured by rental Property; repealed certain requirements for a window replacement program; altering the subjects that the Commission may appoint a subcommittee to study to include case management, lead paint abatement service provider education and training, and blood lead testing; etc. These changes become effective October, 1, 2020.

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Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Meeting Schedule for 2025

Recurring meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month from 9:30a - 11:30a unless otherwise noted below which will be indicated by an asterisk symbol “ * ” below.

Month	Date	Type of Meeting/Location
January	01/02/25	Hybrid/Google Meet or Aqua Conference Room
February	02/06/25	Hybrid/Google Meet or Aqua Conference Room
March	03/06/25	Hybrid/Google Meet or Aqua Conference Room
April	04/03/25	Hybrid/Google Meet or Aqua Conference Room
May	05/01/25	Hybrid/Google Meet or Aqua Conference Room
June	06/05/25	Hybrid/Google Meet or Aqua Conference Room
*** July ***	*** No Meeting ***	*** No Meeting ***
*** August ***	*** No Meeting ***	*** No Meeting ***
September	09/04/25	Hybrid/Google Meet or Aqua Conference Room
October	10/02/25	Hybrid/Google Meet or Aqua Conference Room
November	11/06/25	Hybrid/Google Meet or Aqua Conference Room
December	*** No Meeting ***	*** No Meeting ***

Types of Meetings:

Virtual Meetings:

Join through Google Meet: meet.google.com/yqh-bywv-nfa

Join by phone: (US)+1 347-947-6647

PIN: 537 749 227#

In Person Meetings:

In person meetings will be held at MDE, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21230 in the MDE Conference Room Titled Aqua Room#1005 unless otherwise noted above. For in person meetings at MDE, please park on the blue lot unless a special request for accommodations is made at least 72 hours in advance to Wendy Phillips at wendy.phillips@maryland.gov.

Hybrid Meetings:

The hybrid meeting will allow for meeting either virtually on Google Meet or in person at MDE, depending on the attendee's preference.

11/06/24

TTY Users: 800-735-2258

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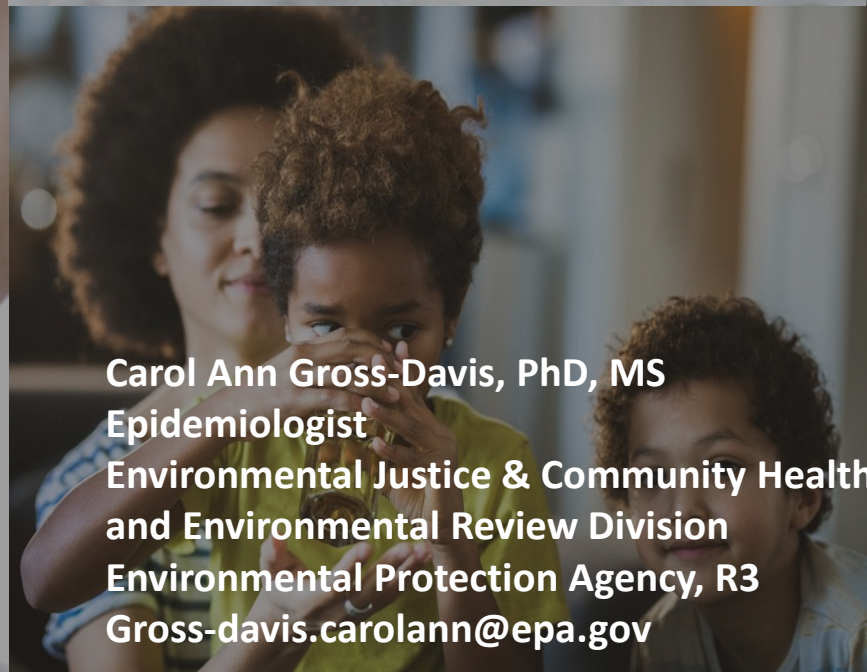
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MDE Lead Commission Reporting Calendar 2025

Months	Topics of Discussion
January 01/02/25	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Legislation (Subcommittee)2. 2025 Commission Meeting Calendar Discussion/Motion to vote (Commissioners)3. 2025 Commission Reporting Calendar vote (Commissioners)4. Updates on Lead Testing in Schools: (WSA/Water Supply Program/Tim Rule)
February 02/06/25	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Legislation Update (Subcommittee)
March 03/06/25	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Legislation Update (Subcommittee)
April 04/03/25	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Legislation Update (Subcommittee)
May 05/01/25	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Legislation Outcomes Next Steps
June 06/05/25	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Commissioner membership updates and renewals due in September (Wendy Phillips)
July	No Meetings For July, August, and December
August	No Meetings For July, August, and December
September 09/04/25	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions (Wendy Phillips)<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Nominations due 09/12/25 & Votes due 09/19/252. Lead Commissioner Members Update (Wendy Phillips)3. Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/19/25 - 10/25/25 (Commission)
October 10/02/25	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Announcement and Awards Presentation (Ruth Ann Norton)2. Commissioner Updates (Wendy Phillips)3. Updates on Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/19/25 - 10/25/25 (Commission)
November 11/06/25	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 2026 Commission Meeting Calendar (Commissioners)2. 2026 Commission Reporting Calendar (Commissioners)
December	No Meetings For July, August, and December
Meetings to Add to January 2026	



EPA Update for MD Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission November 07, 2024



Carol Ann Gross-Davis, PhD, MS
Epidemiologist
Environmental Justice & Community Health
and Environmental Review Division
Environmental Protection Agency, R3
Gross-davis.carolann@epa.gov

Outline for today

- Introduction
- Update on Final Lead and Copper Rule Improvements, October 8, 2024
- Get the Lead Out (GLO) update
- Targeting Lead Exposure ‘Hotspots’ is a Whole-of-Government Priority
- EPA/CDC/HUD Memorandum of Understanding-2024
- Novel pilots project in R3 to increase Blood Lead testing screening

LCRI is final and has been published

- The final LCRI was published in the federal register on **October 30, 2024**. The clock has started.
- <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/10/30/2024-23549/national-primary-drinking-water-regulations-for-lead-and-copper-improvements-lcri>.
- EPA Finalized LCRI on October 8, 2024

Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)

National Primary Drinking Water Regulation

- Builds on previous version of the Lead and Copper Rule.
- Advancement in protecting children and adults from the significant, and irreversible, health effects from being exposed to lead in drinking water.
- Based on the science and existing practices utilized by drinking water systems.

Strengthen Tap Sampling

- Changes to tap sampling requirements, informed by best practices already being used by leading states like Michigan.
- Requires water systems to collect first-liter and fifth-liter samples at sites with a lead service line.
- Systems must use the higher of the two values when calculating the system's 90th percentile lead level.



Lowers the Action Level and Eliminates the Trigger Level

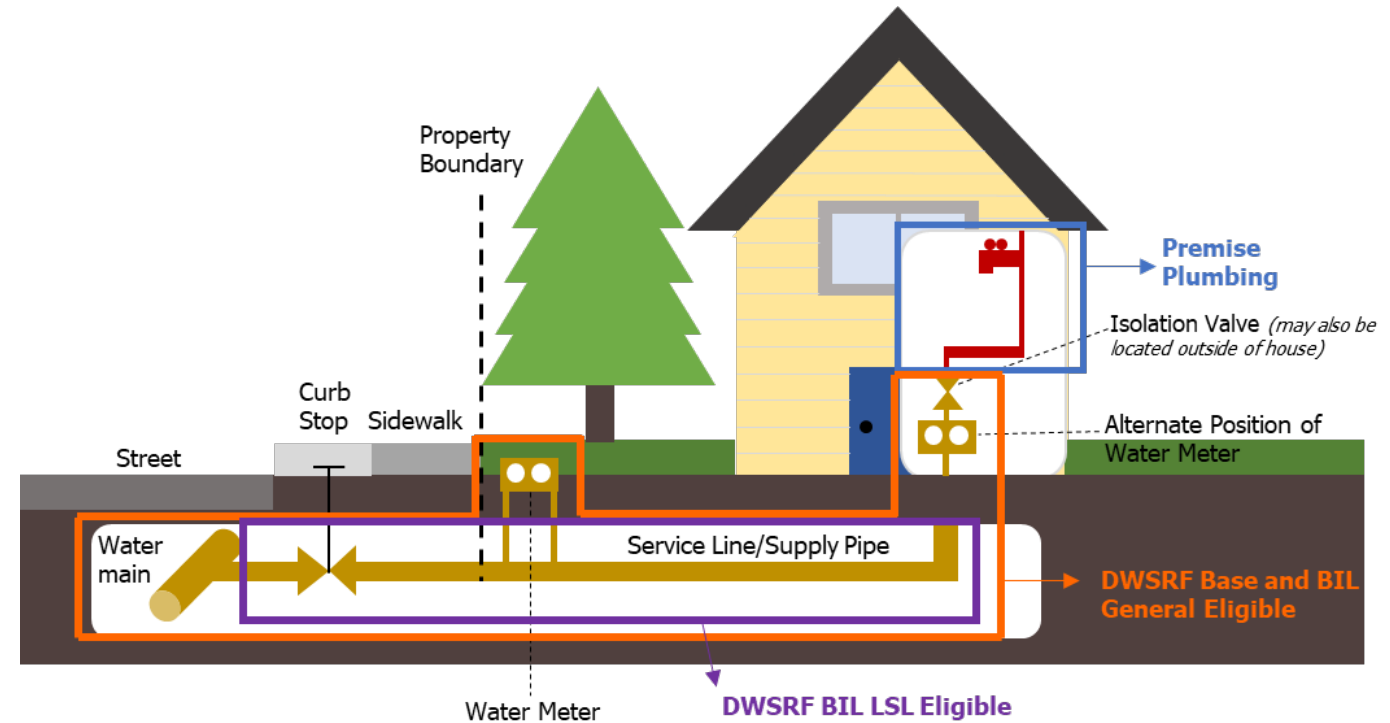
- The LCRI lowers the threshold for taking action, known as the lead action level from 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ to 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$
- Eliminates the overly complex trigger level
- When a water system's 90th percentile lead sampling result exceeds this level, the system would be required to:
 - Notify the public
 - Install or adjust corrosion control treatment
 - Conduct public education program
- Note that systems must expeditiously replace all lead service lines irrespective of whether or not they exceed the action level

Communicating Transparently and Frequently

- Requires more frequent and proactive communications on lead service lines
- and the system's plans for replacement.
- Requires communities to include clear health language about the dangers of lead in Consumer Confidence Reports and public education materials.
- The Consumer Confidence Reports will also provide information about
 - Testing for lead in schools and child care facilities.
 - Inform consumers where they can find the water system's lead service line
 - replacement plan.
 - The corrosion control efforts the system is taking

EPA Lead Service Line Technical Assistance Overview

- EPA TA initiatives are working to accelerate LSLR in underserved communities by providing TA and collaborating with states.
- LSLR Accelerators: working with states to provide direct support to 10 water systems in 4 states.
- GLO Center: build upon Accelerators and expand LSLR TA in up to 200 communities nation wide.

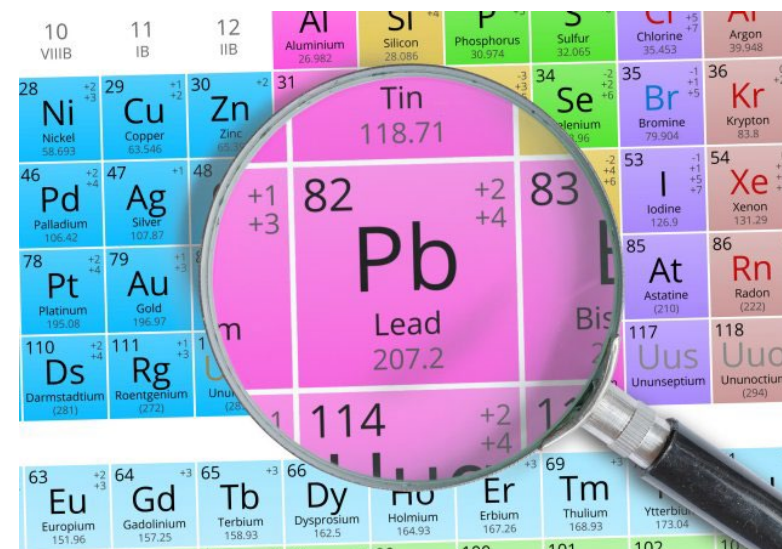


Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA)

- EPA's water technical assistance ([WaterTA](#)), including the Get the Lead Out Initiative, helps disadvantaged communities identify lead services lines, develop replacement plans, and apply for funding to get the lead out.
- This effort is changing the odds for communities that have faced barriers to planning and accessing funding for lead service line replacements.
- Communities seeking to access GLO Initiative resources can request assistance by completing the [WaterTA request form](#) on [EPA's WaterTA website](#).

All of Federal Government Approach

- **EPA Lead Research:**
ORD Research to Support EPA Action on Pb through Targeting, and outreach



Lead Research is a whole-of-government activity

AJPH OPINIONS, IDEAS, & PRACTICE

Targeting Coordinated Federal Efforts to Address Persistent Hazardous Exposures to Lead

Patrick N. Breysse, PhD, Wayne E. Cascio, MD, Andrew M. Geller, PhD, Conrad J. Choiniere, PhD, and Matthew Ammon, MS

States have disparities with higher Hispanic and Black populations. 2016.⁴⁻⁶ Eliminating these hazardous factors is the most potentially effective long-term strategy. Eliminating these hazardous factors is the most potentially effective long-term strategy. Eliminating these hazardous factors is the most potentially effective long-term strategy.

AJPH RESEARCH & ANALYSIS

Lead Data Mapping to Prioritize US Locations for Whole-of-Government Exposure Prevention Efforts: State of the Science, Federal Collaborations, and Remaining Challenges

Valerie Zartarian, PhD, MS, Antonios Poulakos, BA, Veronica Helms Garrison, MS, Nicholas Spalt, MS, Rogelio Tornero-Velez, PhD, Jianping Xue, MD, MS, Kathryn Egan, PhD, MPH, MPA, and Joseph Courtney, PhD

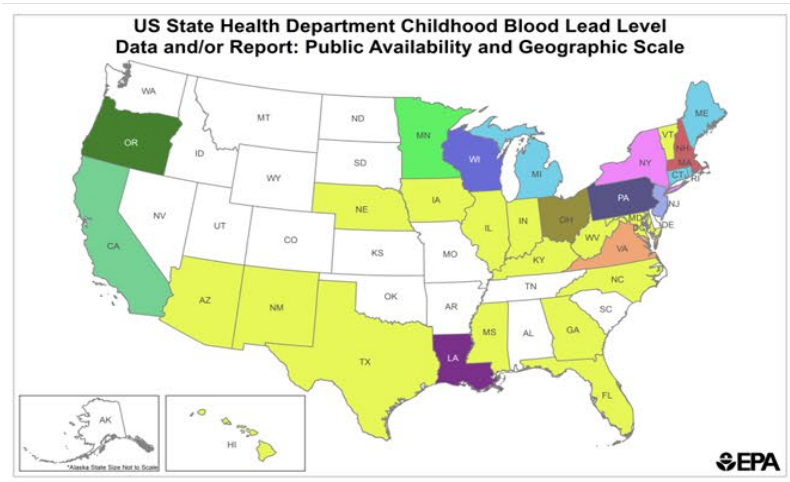
www.nature.com/jes Journal of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology

ARTICLE Check for updates

A national survey of lead and other metal(oids) in residential drinking water in the United States

Karen D. Bradham¹, Clay M. Nelson², Tyler D. Sowers¹, Darren A. Lytle³, Jennifer Tully³, Michael R. Schock³, Kevin Li⁴, Matthew D. Blackmon¹, Kasey Kovalcik¹, David Cox⁵, Gary Dewalt⁵, Warren Friedman⁶, Eugene A. Pinzer⁶ and Peter J. Ashley⁶

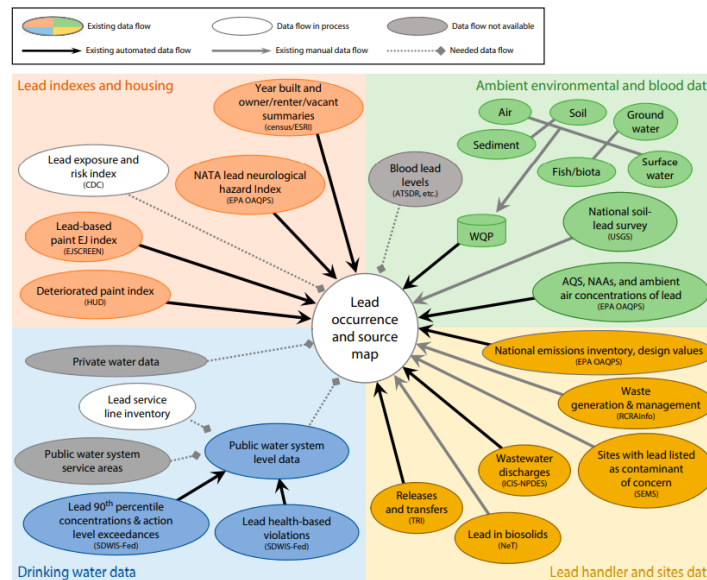
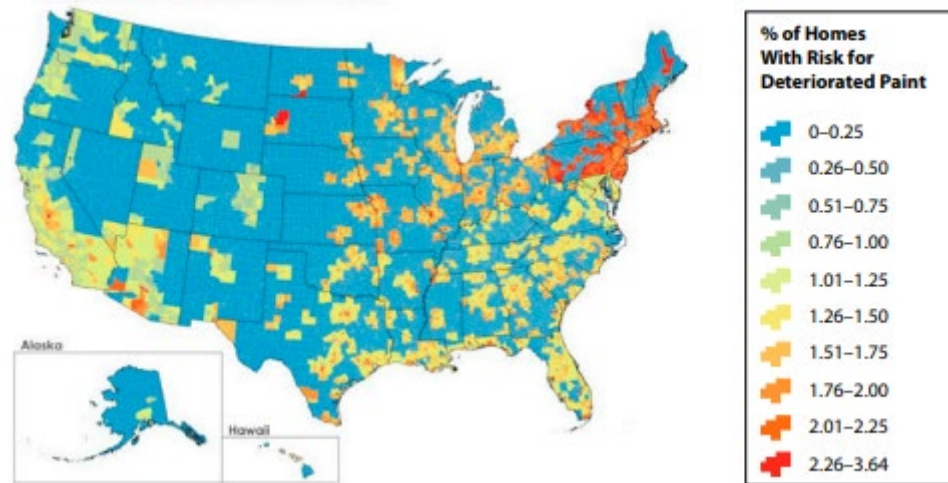
Blueprint Whole-of-Government Data Integration Vision: Identify Hotspots and Drivers with Pb Indices, BLL Data & Environmental Data



Geographic Scale of Blood Lead Level Data and/or Report

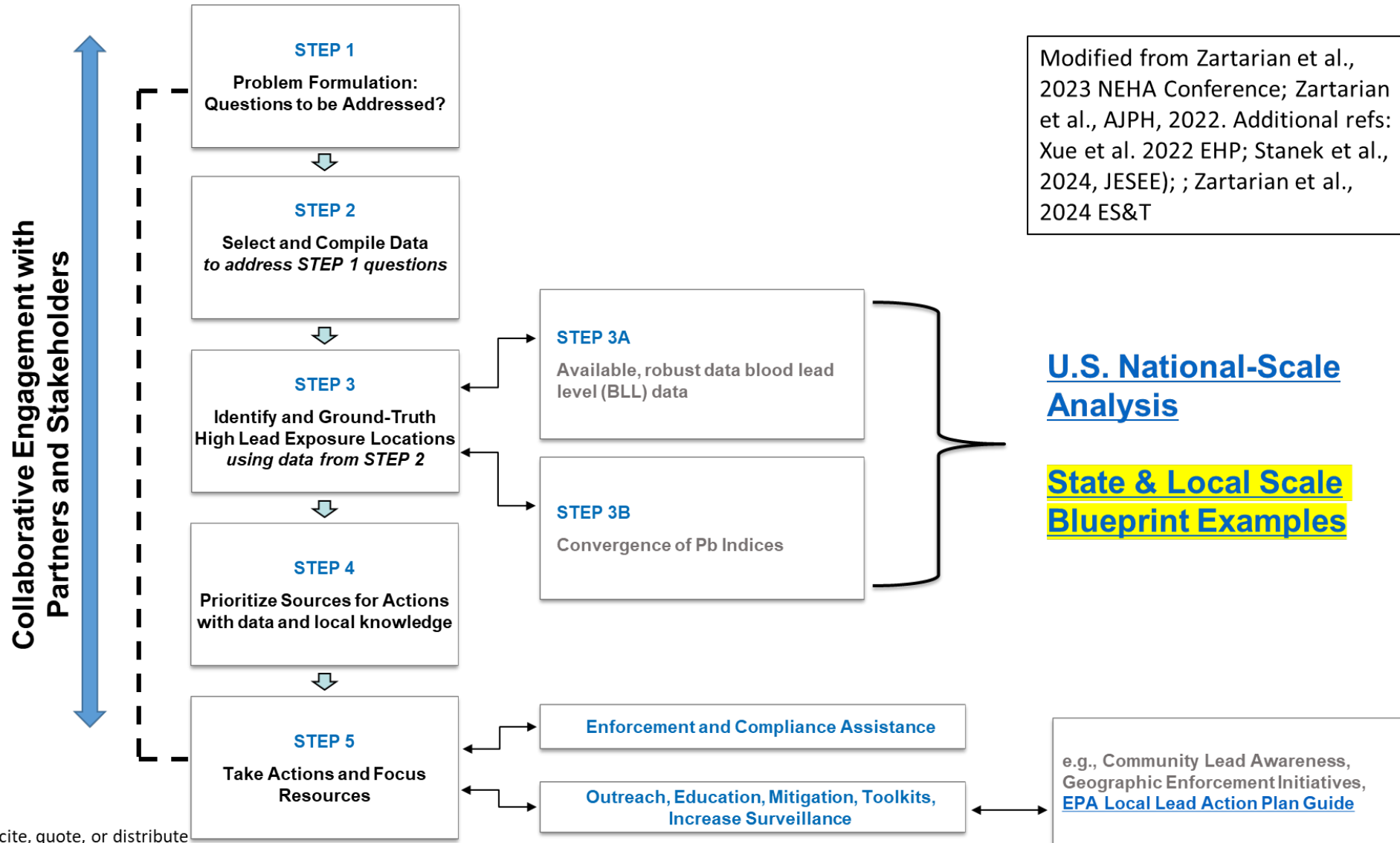
- | | |
|--|---|
| ■ Census Tracts, City/Town | ■ Health Jurisdiction |
| ■ Census Tracts, County | ■ Locality |
| ■ Census Tracts, Health Jurisdiction | ■ Municipality |
| ■ City/Town | ■ Parish |
| ■ City/Town, County | ■ State - higher resolution data must be requested |
| ■ Zip Code, County | ■ No State Health Dept. Public Data Found |
| ■ County | |
| ■ County, Municipality | |

Note: The data presented in this map are based on fall/winter 2021 state health department website information availability. These data may be updated or changed over time.



BLL and environmental data and indicators are available, but are inconsistent with respect to availability and scale across states and locations

“Blueprint” to Identify and Address High Lead Exposure Risk Locations



Identify communities with high lead exposures

Problem: While childhood blood lead levels (BLLs) have dropped across America, many children are still exposed to various sources of lead

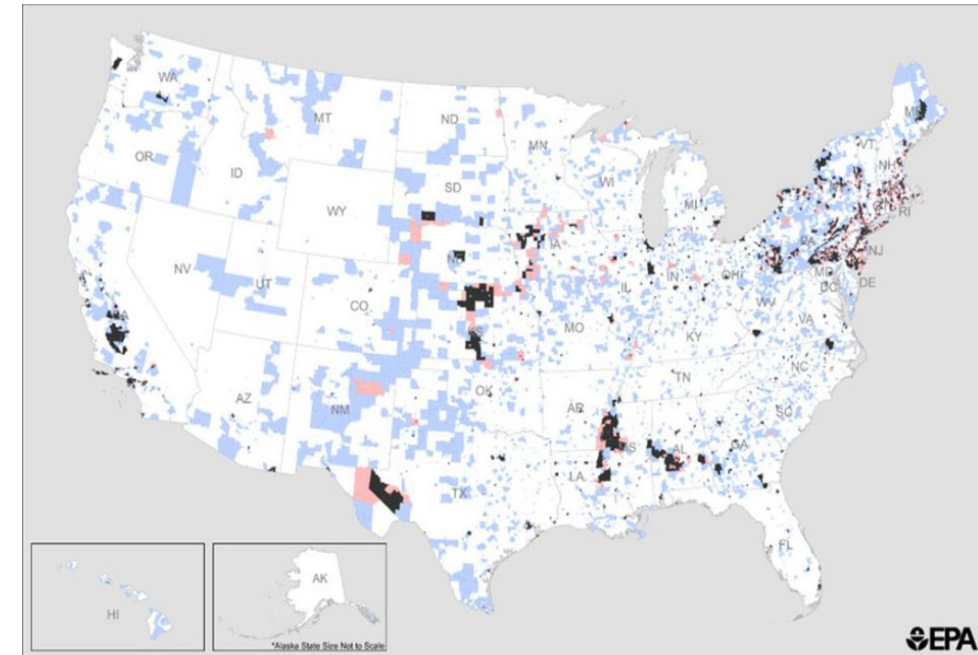
Approach:

- Science-based approaches for identifying communities with high exposure potential and key sources of exposure in those communities
- **Produce an analytic “blueprint” to aid states and others in prioritizing efforts addressing disproportionate impacts**

Why this is important:

- Methods to identify Pb exposure hotspots and their drivers using available BLL data, Pb indices, and environmental data
- Identify potential hot spots in the absence of blood lead level data
- Inform joint EPA and state planning for Pb exposure reduction actions

<https://www.epa.gov/lead/mapping>



Zartarian, et al *Environmental Science & Technology* **2024** 58 (7), 3311-3321
DOI: [10.1021/acs.est.3c07881](https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.3c07881)



West Virginia Blueprint Example Project

- **Goal:** Collaborate on a public health practice informed by science to support WV and federal lead strategies
- **EPA ORD & Region 3 are partnering with WV DOH, ATSDR & HUD for joint, community-focused planning** to apply the science with environmental and public health agency programs: compliance assistance, monitoring and assurance; risk communication; outreach/education; technical assistance
- **Step 1: What are the questions to be addressed?**
 - Where are the highest risks of Pb exposure with the lowest blood lead testing rates?
 - Where to focus other Pb outreach and public health awareness (e.g., for Pb in drinking water, Pb-based paint, Pb in soil from mining, and other contaminated sites and sources)?

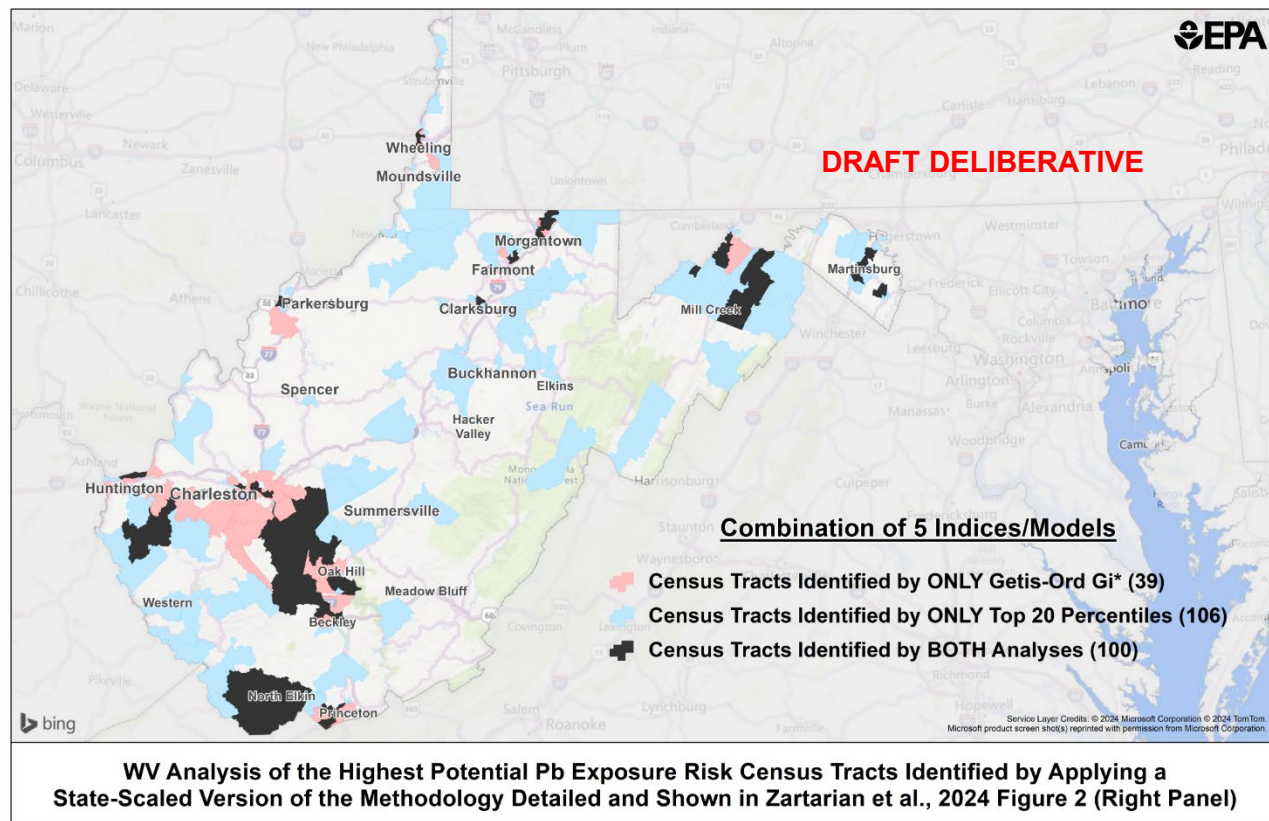
Source: Modified from V. Zartarian, A. Burnett, C. Gross-Davis, “Identifying U.S. High Lead Exposure Locations and Blueprint for Capacity Building”, 2024, National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) AEC Conference, 7/17/24 Session on “Federal Efforts to Identify Lead Hotspots”, Pittsburgh, PA.

Step 2: Select and compile data to Identify High Pb Exposure Risk Locations

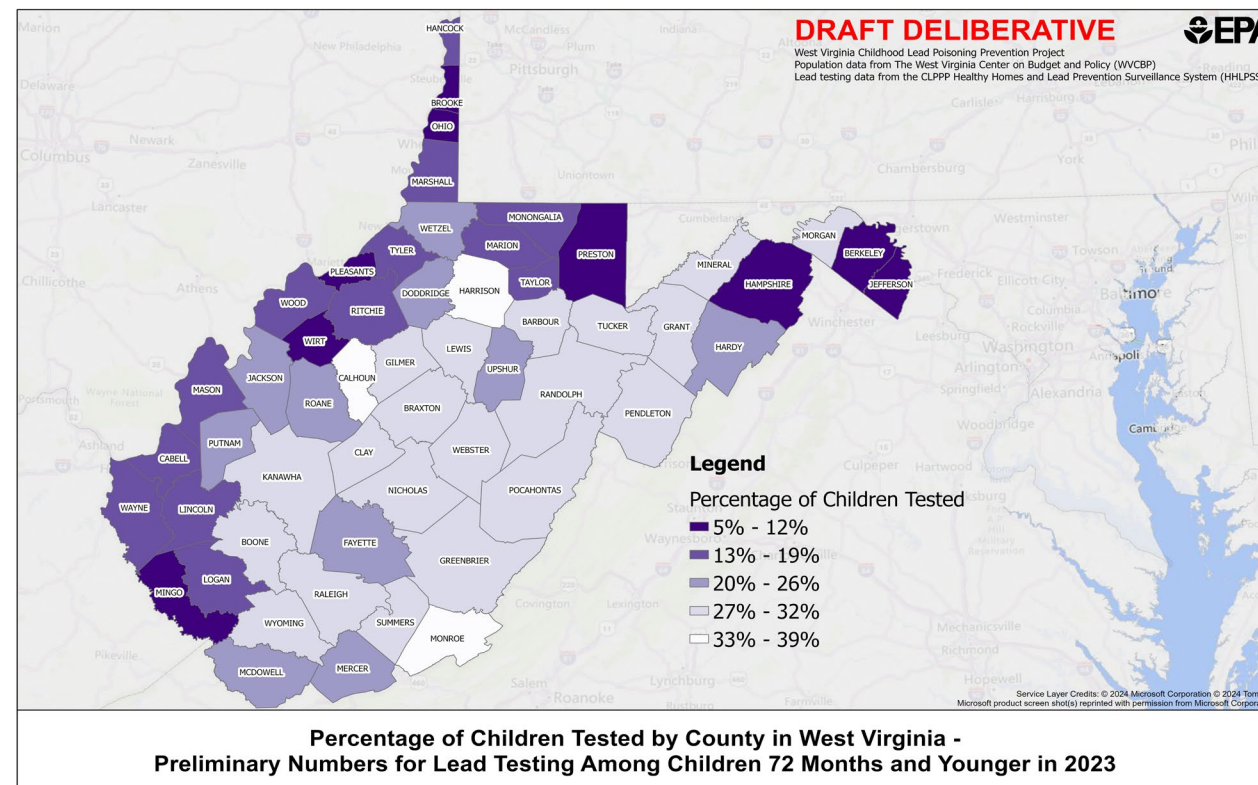
- **Publicly available blood lead (Pb) level data**
 - [WV DOH 2015-2019 elevated blood Pb level data table](#) (≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$; children age < 6 years)
 - There are no newer publicly available data as of 6/3/2024
- **Pb exposure indices and models data** – see [Zartarian et al., 2024](#)
- **Elevated blood lead level (EBLL) 2023 data** – total child testing rates and the rate of children with a BLL ≥ 3.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ per county
 - Data provided by WV DOH in April 2024
- **Environmental Pb data** – from EPA OECA and public websites (e.g., mining data)

Modified from Zartarian, et al, NEHA 2024.

Step 3: High Potential Lead Exposure Risk Locations: Identified by old housing-based indices & WV DOH 2023 Percentage of Children Tested (children age ≤6 years)

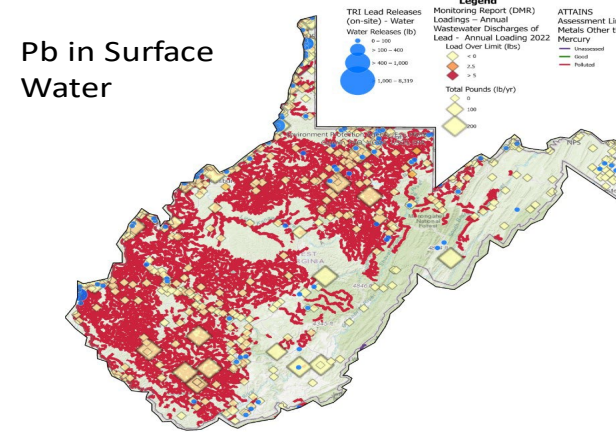
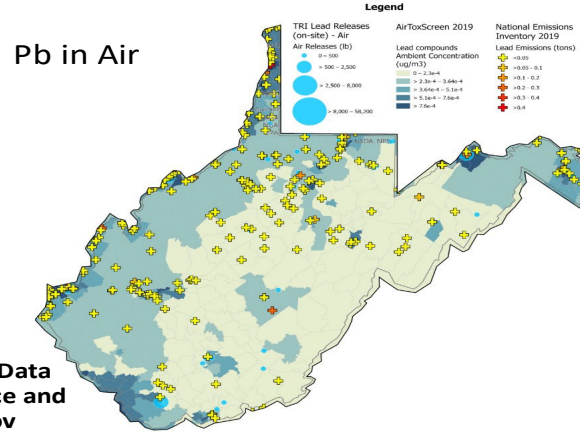
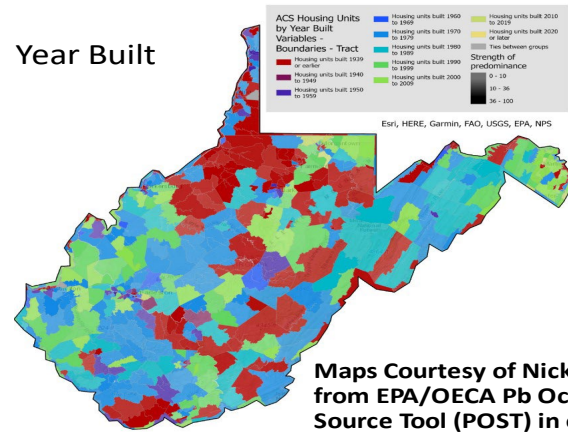


- Applied a WV-scaled version of the methodology in Zartarian et al., 2024 Figure 2
- Census tract data**

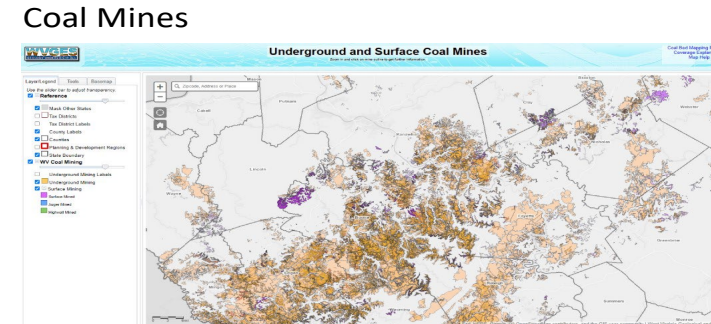
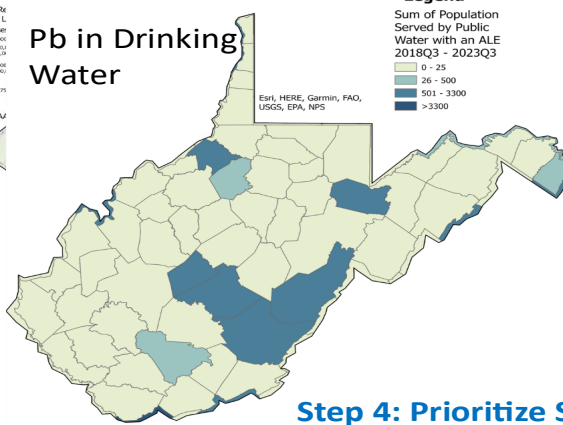
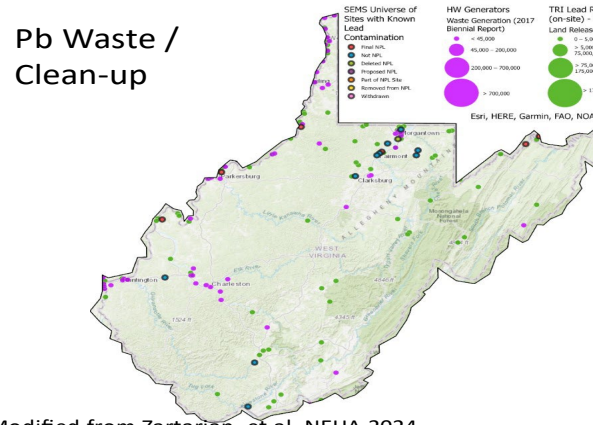


- West Virginia Department of Health Bureau for Public Health Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Project
- Elevated blood Pb level testing data table ($\geq 3.5 \mu\text{g/dL}$; children age ≤ 6 years)
 - Data received April 2024
- County data**

Step 3: High Potential Lead Exposure Risk Locations: Identified by old housing-based indices & WV DOH 2023 Percentage of Children Tested (children age ≤6 years)



Maps Courtesy of Nick Spalt. Data from EPA/OECA Pb Occurrence and Source Tool (POST) in echo.gov



https://www.wvgs.wvnet.edu/GIS/CBMP/all_mining.html

Step 4: Prioritize Sources for Actions with Data and Local Knowledge

Modified from Zartarian, et al, NEHA 2024.

Step 5: Provide Information Toolkits, Science Translation & Other Resources to High Exposure Risk Communities

- Develop an Outreach Strategy targeted to Primary Care Physicians in Harrison County
- Outreach to rural communities via Region 3 Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU) grant
- Use the Blueprint indices maps with testing rate data for targeting blood lead surveillance efforts
- Apply Information Sharing MOU (Feb 2024) with EPA R3, HUD & CDC
- Apply [EPA Local Lead Action Plan \(LLAP\) Guide](#) with checklists, action plan template, best practices



ASSESSING LOCAL LEAD HISTORY & DATA

Get a baseline of the lead history and lead data available for the local area

Checklist 1



IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL LEAD ISSUES

Find potential lead issues across media and sectors in the local area

Checklist 2



IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES TO ADDRESS LEAD

Find gaps that may exist and opportunities to take action to address the local lead issues

Checklist 3



Directions Forward

- Eliminating the remaining lead exposure problem in America needs aggressive, proactive measures to prevent exposures
 - 1) Lead service line identification, POU filters, corrosion control: Technical support; evidence-based education; pipe scale analysis, premise plumbing, water chemistry models, water sampling methods
 - 2) Mapping and Targeting: Continue development and capacity building for EPA regions and states
 - 3) Modeling: Systematic, fit-for-purpose methodologies across the Agency
 - 4) Support remediation of sites contaminated with lead located in or near communities: BLL models, bioavailability, in situ remediation, post-remediation analyses
 - 5) Source Apportionment: Quantifying exposure from the soil, dust, water, food, and air

EPA/CDC/HUD Memorandum of Understanding

Pilot in Region 3

Overview

- Signed February 26, 2024, the MOU provides a framework for cooperation among EPA, CDC, and HUD
- While the objective of this agreement is to develop a national framework for cooperation and information exchange among the agencies, the first step is to conduct a demonstration pilot among CDC, HUD, and EPA

History

- Idea for an MOU came about while the three agencies were addressing the drinking water/lead issues found in Clarksburg, WV.
- At that time, there was not a whole-of-government approach to sharing information among the various Federal agencies [(like CDC and HUD)].
- We saw this as an opportunity to share exposure data with each other [agencies] and have more open lines of communication.
- We also saw it as an opportunity for the other agencies to do the same.

EPA, HUD and HHS announce interagency commitments to more robust collaboration on addressing risks of exposures to lead

- Agreements solidify agencies' dedication to a whole of government approach to preventing lead poisoning
- [February 26, 2024- Press Release Published by EPA and HUD \(link\)](#)
- [EPA, CDC, HUD Data Sharing MOU \(link\)](#)

WHAT IT IS/ISN'T

What it is?

- This is a data sharing agreement, focusing on exposure data.
- All agencies under this agreement will share information at the lowest geographic level available in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, and existing agreements.

What it is NOT?

- As noted in Section III of this agreement, this information will not include PII.
- This is not an agreement that allows for the specific sharing of BLL data. That would get into PII concerns, and not all states are currently sharing their data anyway.

Opportunity?

- There's a possibility that this MOU could lead to connections and relationships with state/local health depts, who have BLL data, to address lead issues on the local level

Next Steps

- A small workgroup is forming to begin moving forward with the implementation of the MOU, including the identification of measures and metrics, and a defined period of time for the pilot.
- President's Task Force (PTF) on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children- started a new Data Integration Subcommittee-as a result of this effort
- Hoping to extend the reach of this type of data sharing for public health practice in the future.
- R3 also working with ORD Lead Mapping methods as an initial opportunity and case study in West Virginia

Novel pilots project to increase Blood Lead testing screening

In Region States of WV, DE and MD

New EPA support for state and local health departments WV

- EPA purchased Lead II Analyzers for Capillary Blood Lead Screening for the WV DOH
- WV DOH started a pilot project with Woman, children and Infant to conduct BL screening at WIC centers in 3 counties
- WV Average testing is @ 20% in Harrison County it is @40% highest in WV
- Looking at add 3 additional county WIC center testing in the next few months

Providing Day Care Center in Wilmington DE Testing Capacity

- Working with the Delaware Division of Public Health
- Latino American Community Center was interested in on site testing due to new state rules for childcare and concerns about families not getting access to good childcare
- EPA delivered 1 Lead Analyzer and 96 testing kits with all the fix'ns to do the testing, gloves, alcohol pads etc...
- Not started yet, but R3 really excited to provide this to a very capable Center that has the capacity to do health screenings and report to the state.

Provided GHHi multiple testing analyzers to build Testing Capacity in MD

- Working with the Ruth Ann Norton of GHHi
- Latino American Community Center was interested in on site testing due to new state rules for childcare and concerns about families not getting access to good childcare
- EPA delivered 3 Lead Analyzer and 96 testing kits with all the fix'ns to do the testing, gloves, alcohol pads etc...
- Not started yet, but R3 is really excited to provide this to a very capable organization to do health screenings and to support at risk families.



Questions?



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Maryland Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission

EPA Lead Dust Standards - Update

November 7, 2004

EPA Lead Dust Standards – Final Rule

Action Taken

- EPA is lowering the following **Lead Dust Hazard Standards (Pre-Intervention)**:

Surface Area	Prior Standard	New Standard
Floors	10 µg/ft ²	Any reportable level measured by an EPA recognized laboratory
Window Sills	100 µg/ft ²	Any reportable level measured by an EPA recognized laboratory
Window Troughs (Wells)	400 µg/ft ²	No standard

EPA Lead Dust Standards – Final Rule

Action Taken

- EPA is lowering the following **Lead Dust Clearance Standards (Post-Intervention)**:

Surface Area	Prior Standard	New Standard
Floors	10 µg/ft ²	5 µg/ft ²
Window Sills	100 µg/ft ²	40 µg/ft ²
Window Troughs (Wells)	400 µg/ft ²	100 µg/ft ²