

LEAD CAN BE FOUND ANYWHERE

LEAD IN THE HOME

Homes built before 1978 are likely to have lead-based paint on walls, doors, stairs, and windowsills.

Lead paint chips and dust are toxic for children and renovation projects can create hazardous dust if the lead paint is disturbed.

LEAD IN THE WATER

Some of the water pipes that deliver water from the public water supply to homes in Chelsea contain lead.

Inside the home, fixtures on pipes made before 1986 contain high levels of lead.

The lead in these pipes can enter into the water over the time, causing the water in your home to become contaminated.

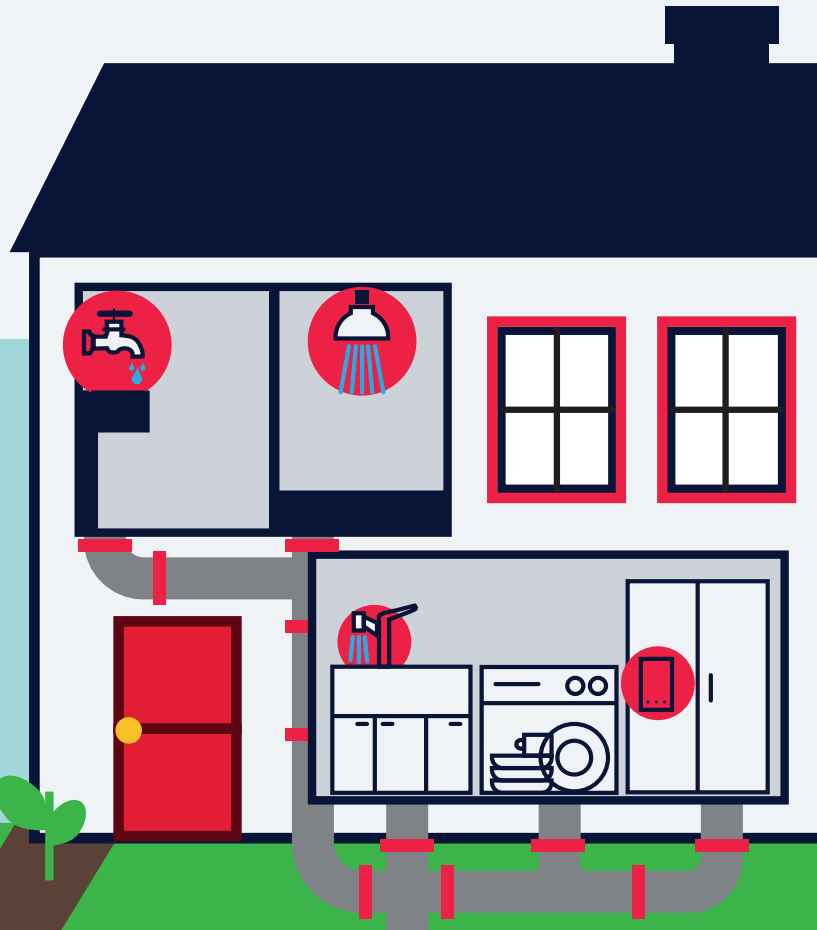
PUBLIC PROPERTY
PRIVATE PROPERTY



PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY



WATER METER



LEAD IN THE SOIL

Soil can contain lead from leaded gasoline, lead paint on the outside of buildings, or other nearby surroundings.

Lead from soil is dangerous for children who might play in soil or ingest it.

Lead can enter your home through dirt on your shoes, clothing, or pets.

LEAD IS HARMFUL TO HUMAN HEALTH. In children, lead exposure can cause life-long health effects, including problems with learning and development. While children may show symptoms, adults with lead poisoning usually don't look or feel sick.

The only way to know if you or your child has been exposed to lead is through a blood test. Blood lead level tests are covered by insurance.



If you have any questions, reach out to your medical provider or contact the Chelsea Public Health Department at 617-466-4209. For more info, visit chelseama.gov/lead

STEPS TO MINIMIZE LEAD EXPOSURE RISK



HOME

The Massachusetts Lead Law requires the removal or control of lead paint in houses built before 1978 with children under age 6. Property owners are responsible for complying with the law and are required to notify tenants of lead risks.

This includes owners of rental property as well as owners living in their own single family home.

To find out if your home has been tested for lead paint, visit

[Mass.gov/info-details/find-your-homes-lead-history](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/find-your-homes-lead-history)

Chelsea home owners may be eligible for financial help through tax credits and loans. The Chelsea Restoration Corporation offers the *Get the Lead Out* Loan Program.

Call 617-889-2277 to see if you qualify.



WATER

The City of Chelsea is aggressively replacing lead service lines (water pipes) that bring water to the home. The Department of Public Works will test the pipe for lead and replace it, if it has lead. This is FREE of cost.

To learn more about Chelsea's Service Line Replacement Program or to test your drinking water, call 617-466-4209.



COMMUNITY

Background lead is found throughout the environment because of widespread human use such as lead in the gas, paint of homes and bridges, and from contamination due to historic dumping. In Chelsea, events like the Second Great Fire of 1973 and most recently, paint chips flaking off from the Tobin Bridge are sources of lead dust that enters the soil.

If you see paint chips, do not touch them or allow children to play with them.

Instead, call 857-492-0221 to report debris.



SOIL

If you suspect that there is lead in your soil, there are actions you can take:

- Use a doormat and/or remove shoes before entering your home.
- Cover bare soil with mulch, wood chips, or bushes to keep children from playing in it.
- Use raised beds or containers for gardening. Avoid growing fruits and vegetables directly in the ground.
- Wash hands after touching soil.
- Keep your pets clean, pets can bring dirt inside on their paws or fur.



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