Lead paint peeling off in pieces from old painted buildings.

- Car exhaust that left a layer of lead when leaded gasoline was used.
- Industrial sources—factories that make lead batteries or brass
- Small amounts of lead may happen naturally

Why is there lead in soil?

How do I know if my soil has lead in it?

- You can have your soil tested to find out if there is lead present.
- Certified laboratories can perform the test on the soil.
- Many samples need to be collected for the test to determine the amount of contamination.

What does my soil test result mean?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soil Lead Level</th>
<th>Level of Lead Contamination mg/kg or ppm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 150</td>
<td>None to very low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 150 to 400</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 400 to 1,000</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 1,000 to 2,000</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater than 2,000</td>
<td>Very high</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- When the soil has medium lead contamination or higher, you should take measures to limit exposure to that area.
What can I do to protect my children from lead in soil?

- Keep children away from foundations of old houses or buildings.
- Plant grass or bushes around the house and over bare soil.
- Cover bare soil with grass seed, mulch, or wood chips.
- Use mats or bark mulch to cover dirt under swings and slides.
- Build a new sandbox, and fill it with clean sand. Have children play in the sandbox instead of the dirt. Make sure the sandbox stays covered to keep it clean.
- Use a door mat and leave shoes outside to keep dirt from getting in your home.
- Turn over and break up the soil to weaken the amount of lead. Then plant grass or shrubs.
- Wash your children’s hands and face after playing outside, especially before eating or drinking.

What should I do about my garden?

- Keep your garden away from old buildings and roads.
- Add lime to lower the acidity of the soil.
- Wash or peel vegetables before eating them, or grow vegetables in pots using new soil.