



## Connecticut Department of Public Health

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# Questions/Answers Relating to the Recall of Toys Due to Lead

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The following is a list of common questions that people may have regarding the recent toy recalls due to lead.

**Q: What if I think my child has been exposed to lead?**

**A:** Contact your child's doctor if you feel that your child has been exposed to lead. Only a blood lead test will tell how much lead is in your child's blood. Most children with an elevated blood lead level show no symptoms. If your child has an elevated blood lead level your doctor can recommend further steps and provide treatment.

**Q: What do I do if I think I have a recalled toy?**

**A:** Immediately take the toy away from children. You can visit the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission website (<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prerel.html>) to search for the toy in question and follow the instructions on the recall notice. Or you can contact the CT Department of Public Health, Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Program at 860-509-7299 and staff can assist you.

**Q: What if I have a toy that has not been recalled but I am worried about it?**

**A:** Immediately take the toy away from children. You can contact a private laboratory that can test the toy. There will be a fee for the test that may exceed the cost of the toy. A list of some laboratories that can provide testing is attached.

**Q: What other sources of lead exposure might my child come into contact with?**

**A:** Common sources of exposure that a child might come in contact with are:

**Lead-based paint** – Lead-based paint is often found in homes that were built before 1978. Lead-based paint can chip, peel, and produce lead dust (see below). [Lead-based paint remains the most common source of lead exposure for children.](#)

**Dust and Soil** – Dust and soil can become contaminated with lead. Dust is often contaminated in the home by lead-based painted surfaces that are chipping and/or peeling. Lead contaminated soil can be carried into your home.

**Water** - Water becomes contaminated by contact with lead water pipes, brass and bronze plumbing fittings that contain lead, and solder that contains lead (banned in 1986) and was used to connect piping.

**Q: Who do I contact if I have questions and for additional information?**

**A:** You can contact the CT Department of Public Health, Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Program at 860-509-7299, the CT Department of Consumer Protection at 860-713-6115, or the company that manufactured a specific toy.



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# Laboratories That Will Test For Lead In Toys

The following is a list of laboratories that have indicated a willingness to test for lead in toys and children's jewelry using the Consumer Safety Commission testing protocol.

This list is for informational purposes only. No certification or approval by the State of Connecticut is implied.

<b><u>Laboratory</u></b>	<b><u>City</u></b>	<b><u>State</u></b>	<b><u>Telephone</u></b>
JMS	Danbury	CT	(203) 798-2229
Northeast Laboratories	Berlin	CT	(860) 828-9787
First Light Power	West Springfield	MA	(413) 787-9064
GPL	Frederick	MD	(301) 694-5310
EMSL	Westmont	NJ	(856) 858-4800
AmeriSci New York	New York	NY	(212) 679-8600
Microbac Laboratory	Waverly	NY	(607) 565-3500
Benchmarks Analytics	Center Valley	PA	(610) 974-8100
RJ Lee Group	Monroeville	PA	(724) 325-1776
Mitkem	Warwick	RI	(401) 732-3400
New England Testing	North Providence	RI	(401) 353-3420
GEL	Charleston	SC	(843) 556-8171

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[www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Lead/lead\\_program.htm](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Lead/lead_program.htm)

