

STEPS TO PREVENT EXPOSURE

- If you have lead in your yard, here are some things you can do:
- Discourage children from playing on bare soil -- provide a sandbox, if possible -- and make sure they wash their hands after playing outside, especially before eating.
- Wash toys before bringing them into the house or leave them outside.
- Keep your pets clean. Dogs and cats can bring dirt inside on their paws or fur.
- Clean up any dirt that is tracked into the house. Use a wet mop whenever you can, since sweeping or vacuuming can stir up dust in the air.
- Wash clothing that is heavily soiled with dirt from the yard separately from other laundry.
- Improve or replace the soil in areas of your yard that are used for gardening or use raised beds. Keep in mind that vegetables grown above ground (e.g., tomatoes and squash) are safer for eating than root vegetables (e.g., potatoes and carrots).
- During the summer months, when dust is a problem, clean window sills with a damp cloth or sponge once a week.
- Keep exterior house paint in good condition. Old paint can peel and flake off into the soil.

