



# Landlord and Tenant Rights and Laws

There are many state laws and judicial decisions that give landlords and tenants specific legal rights and responsibilities. The purpose of this fact sheet is to give you general information on those rights and responsibilities. This fact sheet should not be used as the final source of information on landlord and tenant law. Consult your local municipality for ordinances regulating landlord and tenant rights. Also, this fact sheet does not pertain to you if you live in federally subsidized housing. Tenants living in subsidized housing have rights under federal law not covered here.

## Tenant's Rights and Responsibilities

- You should demand a written lease to avoid future misunderstandings with your landlord.
- You must pay your rent on time.
- You must keep the rental unit clean and undamaged.
- You are responsible for any damages beyond normal wear and tear.
- You must pay the utility bill if the lease makes you responsible.
- You may not alter the rental unit without your landlord's approval.
- You must give written notice when you intend to move if you don't want to lose your security deposit. Normally, a 30-day notice is sufficient, unless your lease requires a longer period.
- The Illinois Retaliatory Eviction Act prohibits your landlord from evicting you for complaining to any governmental authority (housing inspector, human rights commission, etc.).

## Landlord's Rights and Responsibilities

- Must keep the rental unit fit to live in.
- Must make all necessary repairs.
- Must keep the rental unit in compliance with state and local health and housing codes.
- May set the amount of rent and security deposit.
- May charge you a reasonable fee for late rent payments.
- May make reasonable rules and regulations.

## Security Deposits

Your landlord can require you to pay a security deposit that may be used to cover unpaid rent, repair damages to the unit and clean the unit after you move. The amount of the security deposit is normally equal to one month's rent; however, there is no legal limit on the amount your landlord can require.

### *Interest on Your Security Deposit*

State law requires your landlord to pay you interest on your security deposit if it is held for at least six months and there are at least 25 units in your building or complex. Your landlord must pay you the interest or apply the interest as a credit to your rent every 12 months. You may sue your landlord for willfully failing to pay interest and recover an amount equal to your security deposit, court costs and attorney's fees.

### *Return of Your Security Deposit*

The Illinois Security Deposit Return Act requires your landlord to return your security deposit in full within 45 days of the date you moved, if:

- Your building or complex consists of five or more units.
- You do not owe any back rent.
- You have not damaged the rental unit.
- You cleaned the apartment before you moved.

If your landlord refuses to return all or any portion of your security deposit, he/she must give you an itemized statement of the damages along with paid receipts within 30 days of the date you moved. You can sue your landlord to recover your security deposit. If a court finds that your landlord violated the security deposit law, he/she could be liable for damages in an amount equal to two times your security deposit, court costs and attorney's fees.

### **Rent Increases**

In a week-to-week or month-to-month tenancy, the landlord can raise your rent by any amount if he/she gives you seven days' notice for a week-to-week lease or 30 days' notice for a month-to-month lease. Your landlord cannot raise your rent if you have a fixed-term lease. In other words, if you have a year lease, your landlord cannot raise your rent prior to the expiration of the lease.

Illinois does not have a rent control law. Therefore, your landlord can raise your rent as much as he/she deems necessary. However, you should contact your local units of government to see if your city or county has a rent control ordinance.

### **Terminating a Lease**

Your landlord must notify you in writing that he/she intends to terminate the lease. If you are renting month-to-month, you are entitled to a 30-day written notice. Leases running year-to-year require a 60-day written notice. **YOUR LANDLORD DOES NOT HAVE TO GIVE YOU ANY REASON FOR TERMINATING THE LEASE.**

### **Illinois Rental Property Utility Service Act**

If your landlord has failed to pay a utility bill for which he/she is legally responsible, you may pay the bill and deduct the payment from your rent.

### **Discrimination**

A landlord may not refuse to rent or lease an apartment or house to potential tenants or have different rental terms on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex and marital status, or disability. Under the Federal Fair Housing Act, it is illegal to discriminate against families with children when leasing a rental unit. Complaints about discrimination may be filed with the Illinois Department of Human Rights.

### **The Eviction Process**

A landlord must file a lawsuit in order to evict you. Your landlord cannot make you move by turning off your utilities. Also, your landlord may not evict you by locking you out, changing the locks or removing your personal property from the rental unit. The eviction process is detailed below:

**Your landlord must give you a written notice stating the reason for the eviction. If the reason is for nonpayment, your landlord must give you five days to pay the rent. If the eviction is for violating a provision in the lease, your landlord must give you a 10-day notice.**

If you remain in the rental unit after the eviction notice, your landlord can file a lawsuit to evict you. The Illinois Forcible Entry and Detainer Act requires your landlord to serve you a summons and complaint. The summons will require you to appear in court. Go to court on the scheduled day. Remember, you have the right to:

- Have legal representation at your cost.
- Have a trial by jury.
- Present evidence.
- Call your own witnesses.
- Ask questions.

The burden of proof is on your landlord. The judge will make a decision. If you lose your case, the judge will order you to vacate the rental unit. However, the judge normally will give you some time to move. You have the right to appeal the decision. This must be done within 30 days after the trial. If you do not move out, your landlord may ask the Sheriff's office to physically evict you. **Remember, only a sheriff can physically evict you. It is illegal for a landlord to evict you by locking you out.**

### **Eviction Defenses**

You may be able to use the following defenses to stop an eviction or set off a claim for unpaid rent:

- You paid the rent during the 5-day notice period.
- Your landlord retaliated against you for filing a complaint with a governmental authority.
- You withheld a reasonable portion of your rent because your landlord failed to maintain the utilities (when it was the landlord's responsibility) or failed to make repairs after being given notice that they were needed.

### **If You Need Further Help**

If you have further questions about landlord and tenant law or a specific problem you may contact:

- Your attorney for legal advice.
- Legal aid services to determine if you are eligible for free legal services.
- The Illinois Lawyer Referral Service for the name and telephone number of a private attorney. The attorney will charge a moderate fee for an initial interview.
- The Illinois Department of Human Rights - Chicago: (312) 814-6200, TDD: (312) 263-1579; Springfield: (217) 785-5100, TDD: (217) 785-5125; Housing complaints: 1-800-662-3942.

For more information, please contact us.

**Chicago**  
100 W. Randolph Street  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312) 814-3000  
TTY: (800) 964-3013

**Springfield**  
500 S. Second Street  
Springfield, IL 62706  
(217) 782-1090  
TTY: (877) 844-5461

**Carbondale**  
601 S. University Avenue  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
(618) 529-6400/6401  
TTY: (877) 675-9339

**Please visit [www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov)**

## Various New or Updated Ordinances or Laws for Illinois

**RADON GAS DISCLOSURE:** The Federal Government and the State of Illinois encourage, but do not mandate, all property owners to conduct radon testing. **The Illinois Radon Disclosure Act, 420 ILCS 46/1**, requires any Landlord renting out a unit on the first or second story above ground level (but not on the third level or higher) to disclose to prospective Tenants the existence of a known radon hazard. Because Landlords are NOT required to conduct radon testing, disclosure is mandated only if a Tenant provides the Landlord, in writing, with the results of a test indicating the presence of a radon hazard or if the Landlord conducts its own test and determines that a radon hazard exists. For more information, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency both publish sample online materials about the origins and health effects of radon, as well as options for radon testing and remediation. **LANDLORD HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF ELEVATED RADON CONCENTRATIONS IN THE DWELLING OR BUILDING.**

**E-cigarette use will no longer be permitted in indoor public spaces in Illinois beginning January 1, 2024, under a new state law signed earlier this year by Gov. JB Pritzker.** The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) supports the intent of the new law, one of several taking effect in the New Year that will improve public health across the state. **HB1540**, sponsored in the House by Rep. Camille Lilly and in the Senate by Sen. Julie Morrison, adds electronic smoking devices to the list of items prohibited for public indoor use under the Smoke Free Illinois Act, the indoor smoking ban that was enacted in 2008. When the new law takes effect **January 1, such devices can no longer be used in indoor public spaces or within 15 feet of a public entrance.**

These new laws will require the development of additional rules for full implementation. More guidance will be coming from IDPH in the near future.

<http://www.smoke-free.illinois.gov/>

### **Public Act 103-0053**

#### **Electric Vehicle Charging Act.**

"This Act applies to **newly constructed** single-family homes and multi-unit residential buildings that have parking spaces and are constructed after the effective date of this Act."

"Electric vehicle" means a vehicle that is exclusively powered by and refueled by electricity, plugs in to charge, and is licensed to drive on public roadways. "Electric vehicle" does not include electric mopeds, electric off-highway vehicles, hybrid electric vehicles, or extended-range electric vehicles that are equipped, fully or partially, with conventional fueled propulsion or auxiliary engines."

**Effective Date: 1/1/2024**

**Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based Paint and/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards**

**Lead Warning Statement**

*Housing built before 1978 may contain lead-based paint. Lead from paint, paint chips, and dust can pose health hazards if not managed properly. Lead exposure is especially harmful to young children and pregnant women. Before renting pre-1978 housing, Landlords must disclose the presence of known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the dwelling. Tenants must also receive a federally approved pamphlet on lead poisoning prevention.*

**Landlord's Disclosure**

(a) Presence of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards (check (i) or (ii) below):

(i) \_\_\_\_\_ Known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards are present in the housing (explain).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Landlord has no knowledge of lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing.

(b) Records and reports available to the Landlord (check (i) or (ii) below):

(i) \_\_\_\_\_ Landlord has provided the Tenant with all available records and reports pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing (list documents below).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_ Landlord has no reports or records pertaining to lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the housing.

**Tenant's Acknowledgment (initial)**

(c) \_\_\_\_\_ Tenant has received copies of all information listed above.

(d) \_\_\_\_\_ Tenant has received the pamphlet *Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home*.

**Agent's Acknowledgment (initial)**

(e) \_\_\_\_\_ Agent has informed the Landlord of the Landlord's obligations under 42 U.S.C. 4852d and is aware of his/her responsibility to ensure compliance.

**Certification of Accuracy**

The following parties have reviewed the information above and certify, to the best of their knowledge, that the information they have provided is true and accurate.

_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Landlord</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Landlord</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Tenant</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Tenant</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Agent</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>Date</b>



# Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home



March 2021

## Are You Planning to Buy or Rent a Home Built Before 1978?

Did you know that many homes built before 1978 have **lead-based paint**? Lead from paint, chips, and dust can pose serious health hazards.

### Read this entire brochure to learn:

- How lead gets into the body
- How lead affects health
- What you can do to protect your family
- Where to go for more information

### Before renting or buying a pre-1978 home or apartment, federal law requires:

- Sellers must disclose known information on lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards before selling a house.
- Real estate sales contracts must include a specific warning statement about lead-based paint. Buyers have up to 10 days to check for lead.
- Landlords must disclose known information on lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards before leases take effect. Leases must include a specific warning statement about lead-based paint.

### If undertaking renovations, repairs, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or apartment:

- Read EPA's pamphlet, *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*, to learn about the lead-safe work practices that contractors are required to follow when working in your home (see page 12).



## Simple Steps to Protect Your Family from Lead Hazards

### If you think your home has lead-based paint:

- Don't try to remove lead-based paint yourself.
- Always keep painted surfaces in good condition to minimize deterioration.
- Get your home checked for lead hazards. Find a certified inspector or risk assessor at [epa.gov/lead](http://epa.gov/lead).
- Talk to your landlord about fixing surfaces with peeling or chipping paint.
- Regularly clean floors, window sills, and other surfaces.
- Take precautions to avoid exposure to lead dust when remodeling.
- When renovating, repairing, or painting, hire only EPA- or state-approved Lead-Safe certified renovation firms.
- Before buying, renting, or renovating your home, have it checked for lead-based paint.
- Consult your health care provider about testing your children for lead. Your pediatrician can check for lead with a simple blood test.
- Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers, and toys often.
- Make sure children eat healthy, low-fat foods high in iron, calcium, and vitamin C.
- Remove shoes or wipe soil off shoes before entering your house.

## Lead Gets into the Body in Many Ways

### Adults and children can get lead into their bodies if they:

- Breathe in lead dust (especially during activities such as renovations, repairs, or painting that disturb painted surfaces).
- Swallow lead dust that has settled on food, food preparation surfaces, and other places.
- Eat paint chips or soil that contains lead.

### Lead is especially dangerous to children under the age of 6.

- At this age, children's brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead.
- Children's growing bodies absorb more lead.
- Babies and young children often put their hands and other objects in their mouths. These objects can have lead dust on them.



### Women of childbearing age should know that lead is dangerous to a developing fetus.

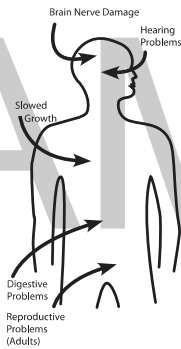
- Women with a high lead level in their system before or during pregnancy risk exposing the fetus to lead through the placenta during fetal development.

## Health Effects of Lead

**Lead affects the body in many ways.** It is important to know that even exposure to low levels of lead can severely harm children.

### In children, exposure to lead can cause:

- Nervous system and kidney damage
- Learning disabilities, attention-deficit disorder, and decreased intelligence
- Speech, language, and behavior problems
- Poor muscle coordination
- Decreased muscle and bone growth
- Hearing damage



While low-lead exposure is most common, exposure to high amounts of lead can have devastating effects on children, including seizures, unconsciousness, and in some cases, death.

Although children are especially susceptible to lead exposure, lead can be dangerous for adults, too.

### In adults, exposure to lead can cause:

- Harm to a developing fetus
- Increased chance of high blood pressure during pregnancy
- Fertility problems (in men and women)
- High blood pressure
- Digestive problems
- Nerve disorders
- Memory and concentration problems
- Muscle and joint pain

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## Check Your Family for Lead

**Get your children and home tested if you think your home has lead.**

Children's blood lead levels tend to increase rapidly from 6 to 12 months of age, and tend to peak at 18 to 24 months of age.

Consult your doctor for advice on testing your children. A simple blood test can detect lead. Blood lead tests are usually recommended for:

- Children at ages 1 and 2
- Children or other family members who have been exposed to high levels of lead
- Children who should be tested under your state or local health screening plan

**Your doctor can explain what the test results mean and if more testing will be needed.**

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## Where Lead-Based Paint Is Found

In general, the older your home or childcare facility, the more likely it has lead-based paint.<sup>1</sup>

**Many homes, including private, federally-assisted, federally-owned housing, and childcare facilities built before 1978 have lead-based paint.** In 1978, the federal government banned consumer uses of lead-containing paint.<sup>2</sup>

Learn how to determine if paint is lead-based paint on page 7.

### Lead can be found:

- In homes and childcare facilities in the city, country, or suburbs,
- In private and public single-family homes and apartments,
- On surfaces inside and outside of the house, and
- In soil around a home. (Soil can pick up lead from exterior paint or other sources, such as past use of leaded gas in cars.)

Learn more about where lead is found at [epa.gov/lead](http://epa.gov/lead).

<sup>1</sup> "Lead-based paint" is currently defined by the federal government as paint with lead levels greater than or equal to 1.0 milligram per square centimeter (mg/cm<sup>2</sup>), or more than 0.5% by weight.

<sup>2</sup> "Lead-containing paint" is currently defined by the federal government as lead in new dried paint in excess of 90 parts per million (ppm) by weight.

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## Identifying Lead-Based Paint and Lead-Based Paint Hazards

**Deteriorated lead-based paint (peeling, chipping, chalking, cracking, or damaged paint)** is a hazard and needs immediate attention. **Lead-based paint** may also be a hazard when found on surfaces that children can chew or that get a lot of wear and tear, such as:

- On windows and window sills
- Doors and door frames
- Stairs, railings, banisters, and porches

**Lead-based paint is usually not a hazard if it is in good condition** and if it is not on an impact or friction surface like a window.

**Lead dust** can form when lead-based paint is scraped, sanded, or heated. Lead dust also forms when painted surfaces containing lead bump or rub together. Lead paint chips and dust can get on surfaces and objects that people touch. Settled lead dust can reenter the air when the home is vacuumed or swept, or when people walk through it. EPA currently defines the following levels of lead in dust as hazardous:

- 10 micrograms per square foot (µg/ft<sup>2</sup>) and higher for floors, including carpeted floors
- 100 µg/ft<sup>2</sup> and higher for interior window sills

**Lead in soil** can be a hazard when children play in bare soil or when people bring soil into the house on their shoes. EPA currently defines the following levels of lead in soil as hazardous:

- 400 parts per million (ppm) and higher in play areas of bare soil
- 1,200 ppm (average) and higher in bare soil in the remainder of the yard

**Remember, lead from paint chips—which you can see—and lead dust—which you may not be able to see—both can be hazards.**

The only way to find out if paint, dust, or soil lead hazards exist is to test for them. The next page describes how to do this.

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## Checking Your Home for Lead

You can get your home tested for lead in several different ways:

- A lead-based paint **inspection** tells you if your home has lead-based paint and where it is located. It won't tell you whether your home currently has lead hazards. A trained and certified testing professional, called a lead-based paint inspector, will conduct a paint inspection using methods, such as:
  - Portable x-ray fluorescence (XRF) machine
  - Lab tests of paint samples
- A **risk assessment** tells you if your home currently has any lead hazards from lead in paint, dust, or soil. It also tells you what actions to take to address any hazards. A trained and certified testing professional, called a risk assessor, will:
  - Sample paint that is deteriorated on doors, windows, floors, stairs, and walls
  - Sample dust near painted surfaces and sample bare soil in the yard
  - Get lab tests of paint, dust, and soil samples
- A combination inspection and risk assessment tells you if your home has any lead-based paint and if your home has any lead hazards, and where both are located.



Be sure to read the report provided to you after your inspection or risk assessment is completed, and ask questions about anything you do not understand.

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## Checking Your Home for Lead, continued

In preparing for renovation, repair, or painting work in a pre-1978 home, Lead-Safe Certified renovators (see page 12) may:

- Take paint chip samples to determine if lead-based paint is present in the area planned for renovation and send them to an EPA-recognized lead lab for analysis. In housing receiving federal assistance, the person collecting these samples must be a certified lead-based paint inspector or risk assessor
- Use EPA-recognized tests kits to determine if lead-based paint is absent (but not in housing receiving federal assistance)
- Presume that lead-based paint is present and use lead-safe work practices

There are state and federal programs in place to ensure that testing is done safely, reliably, and effectively. Contact your state or local agency for more information, visit [epa.gov/lead](http://epa.gov/lead), or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)** for a list of contacts in your area.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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## What You Can Do Now to Protect Your Family

**If you suspect that your house has lead-based paint hazards, you can take some immediate steps to reduce your family's risk:**

- If you rent, notify your landlord of peeling or chipping paint.
- Keep painted surfaces clean and free of dust. Clean floors, window frames, window sills, and other surfaces weekly. Use a mop or sponge with warm water and a general all-purpose cleaner. (Remember: never mix ammonia and bleach products together because they can form a dangerous gas.)
- Carefully clean up paint chips immediately without creating dust.
- Thoroughly rinse sponges and mop heads often during cleaning of dirty or dusty areas, and again afterward.
- Wash your hands and your children's hands often, especially before they eat and before nap time and bed time.
- Keep play areas clean. Wash bottles, pacifiers, toys, and stuffed animals regularly.
- Keep children from chewing window sills or other painted surfaces, or eating soil.
- When renovating, repairing, or painting, hire only EPA- or state-approved Lead-Safe Certified renovation firms (see page 12).
- Clean or remove shoes before entering your home to avoid tracking in lead from soil.
- Make sure children eat nutritious, low-fat meals high in iron, and calcium, such as spinach and dairy products. Children with good diets absorb less lead.

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## Reducing Lead Hazards

**Disturbing lead-based paint or removing lead improperly can increase the hazard to your family by spreading even more lead dust around the house.**



- In addition to day-to-day cleaning and good nutrition, you can **temporarily** reduce lead-based paint hazards by taking actions, such as repairing damaged painted surfaces and planting grass to cover lead-contaminated soil. These actions are not permanent solutions and will need ongoing attention.
  - You can minimize exposure to lead when renovating, repairing, or painting by hiring an EPA- or state-certified renovator who is trained in the use of lead-safe work practices. If you are a do-it-yourselfer, learn how to use lead-safe work practices in your home.
  - To remove lead hazards permanently, you should hire a certified lead abatement contractor. Abatement (or permanent hazard elimination) methods include removing, sealing, or enclosing lead-based paint with special materials. Just painting over the hazard with regular paint is not permanent control.
- Always use a certified contractor who is trained to address lead hazards safely.**
- Hire a Lead-Safe Certified firm (see page 12) to perform renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects that disturb painted surfaces.
  - To correct lead hazards permanently, hire a certified lead abatement contractor. This will ensure your contractor knows how to work safely and has the proper equipment to clean up thoroughly.

Certified contractors will employ qualified workers and follow strict safety rules as set by their state or by the federal government.

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## Reducing Lead Hazards, continued

If your home has had lead abatement work done or if the housing is receiving federal assistance, once the work is completed, dust cleanup activities must be conducted until clearance testing indicates that lead dust levels are below the following levels:

- 10 micrograms per square foot ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ ) for floors, including carpeted floors
- 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$  for interior windows sills
- 400  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$  for window troughs

Abatement work is designed to permanently eliminate lead-based paint hazards. However, lead dust can be reintroduced into an abated area.

- Use a HEPA vacuum on all furniture and other items returned to the area, to reduce the potential for reintroducing lead dust.
- Regularly clean floors, window sills, troughs, and other hard surfaces with a damp cloth or sponge and a general all-purpose cleaner.

Please see page 9 for more information on steps you can take to protect your home after the abatement. For help in locating certified lead abatement professionals in your area, call your state or local agency (see pages 15 and 16), [epa.gov/lead](http://epa.gov/lead), or call 1-800-424-LEAD.

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## Other Sources of Lead

### Lead in Drinking Water

The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures.

Lead pipes are more likely to be found in older cities and homes built before 1986.

You can't smell or taste lead in drinking water.

To find out for certain if you have lead in drinking water, have your water tested.

Remember older homes with a private well can also have plumbing materials that contain lead.

### Important Steps You Can Take to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water

- Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Remember, boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes.
- Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator).
- If you use a filter certified to remove lead, don't forget to read the directions to learn when to change the cartridge. Using a filter after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead.

Contact your water company to determine if the pipe that connects your home to the water main (called a service line) is made from lead. Your area's water company can also provide information about the lead levels in your system's drinking water.

For more information about lead in drinking water, please contact EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. If you have other questions about lead poisoning prevention, call 1-800 424-LEAD.\*

Call your local health department or water company to find out about testing your water, or visit [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater) for EPA's lead in drinking water information. Some states or utilities offer programs to pay for water testing for residents. Contact your state or local water company to learn more.

\* Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

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## Renovating, Repairing or Painting a Home with Lead-Based Paint

If you hire a contractor to conduct renovation, repair, or painting (RRP) projects in your pre-1978 home or childcare facility (such as pre-school and kindergarten), your contractor must:

- Be a Lead-Safe Certified firm approved by EPA or an EPA-authorized state program
- Use qualified trained individuals (Lead-Safe Certified renovators) who follow specific lead-safe work practices to prevent lead contamination
- Provide a copy of EPA's lead hazard information document, *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*



RRP contractors working in pre-1978 homes and childcare facilities must follow lead-safe work practices that:

- **Contain the work area.** The area must be contained so that dust and debris do not escape from the work area. Warning signs must be put up, and plastic or other impermeable material and tape must be used.
- **Avoid renovation methods that generate large amounts of lead-contaminated dust.** Some methods generate so much lead-contaminated dust that their use is prohibited. They are:
  - Open-flame burning or torching
  - Sanding, grinding, planing, needle gunning, or blasting with power tools and equipment not equipped with a shroud and HEPA vacuum attachment
  - Using a heat gun at temperatures greater than 1100°F
- **Clean up thoroughly.** The work area should be cleaned up daily. When all the work is done, the area must be cleaned up using special cleaning methods.
- **Dispose of waste properly.** Collect and seal waste in a heavy duty bag or sheeting. When transported, ensure that waste is contained to prevent release of dust and debris.

To learn more about EPA's requirements for RRP projects, visit [epa.gov/getleadsafe](http://epa.gov/getleadsafe), or read *The Lead-Safe Certified Guide to Renovate Right*.

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## Other Sources of Lead, continued

- **Lead smelters** or other industries that release lead into the air.
- **Your job.** If you work with lead, you could bring it home on your body or clothes. Shower and change clothes before coming home. Launder your work clothes separately from the rest of your family's clothes.
- **Hobbies** that use lead, such as making pottery or stained glass, or refinishing furniture. Call your local health department for information about hobbies that may use lead.
- **Old toys and furniture** may have been painted with lead-containing paint. Older toys and other children's products may have parts that contain lead.<sup>4</sup>
- Food and liquids cooked or stored in **lead crystal or lead-glazed pottery or porcelain** may contain lead.
- Folk remedies, such as "**greta**" and "**azarcon**," used to treat an upset stomach.

<sup>4</sup> In 1978, the federal government banned toys, other children's products, and furniture with lead-containing paint. In 2008, the federal government banned lead in most children's products. The federal government currently bans lead in excess of 100 ppm by weight in most children's products.

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## For More Information

### The National Lead Information Center

Learn how to protect children from lead poisoning and get other information about lead hazards on the Web at [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater) and [hud.gov/lead](http://hud.gov/lead), or call **1-800-424-LEAD (5323)**.

### EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline

For information about lead in drinking water, call **1-800-426-4791**, or visit [epa.gov/lead](http://epa.gov/lead) for information about lead in drinking water.

### Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Hotline

For information on lead in toys and other consumer products, or to report an unsafe consumer product or a product-related injury, call **1-800-638-2772**, or visit CPSC's website at [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov) or [saferproducts.gov](http://saferproducts.gov).

### State and Local Health and Environmental Agencies

Some states, tribes, and cities have their own rules related to lead-based paint. Check with your local agency to see which laws apply to you. Most agencies can also provide information on finding a lead abatement firm in your area, and on possible sources of financial aid for reducing lead hazards. Receive up-to-date address and phone information for your state or local contacts on the Web at [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater), or contact the National Lead Information Center at **1-800-424-LEAD**.

Hearing- or speech-challenged individuals may access any of the phone numbers in this brochure through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at **1-800-877-8339**.

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## U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Offices

The mission of EPA is to protect human health and the environment. Your Regional EPA Office can provide further information regarding regulations and lead protection programs.

**Region 1** (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)

Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 1  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100, OES 05-4  
Boston, MA 02109-3912  
(888) 372-7341

**Region 2** (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)

Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 2  
2890 Woodbridge Avenue  
Building 205, Mail Stop 225  
Edison, NJ 08837-3679  
(732) 906-6809

**Region 3** (Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, DC, West Virginia)

Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 3  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 814-2088

**Region 4** (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)

Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 4  
AFC Tower, 12th Floor, Air, Pesticides & Toxics  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
(404) 562-8998

**Region 5** (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin)

Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 5 (LL-17J)  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, IL 60604-3666  
(312) 353-3808

**Region 6** (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and 66 Tribes)

Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue, 12th Floor  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733  
(214) 665-2704

**Region 7** (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska)

Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 7  
11201 Renner Blvd.  
Lenexa, KS 66219  
(800) 223-0425

**Region 8** (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)

Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 8  
1595 Wynkoop St.  
Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 312-6966

**Region 9** (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada)

Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 9 (CMD-4-2)  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 947-4280

**Region 10** (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington)

Regional Lead Contact  
U.S. EPA Region 10 (20-C04)  
Air and Toxics Enforcement Section  
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155  
Seattle, WA 98101  
(206) 553-1200

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## Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

The CPSC protects the public against unreasonable risk of injury from consumer products through education, safety standards activities, and enforcement. Contact CPSC for further information regarding consumer product safety and regulations.

### CPSC

4330 East West Highway  
Bethesda, MD 20814-4421  
1-800-638-2772  
[cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov) or [saferproducts.gov](http://saferproducts.gov)

## U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes for further information regarding the Lead Safe Housing Rule, which protects families in pre-1978 assisted housing, and for the lead hazard control and research grant programs.

### HUD

451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 8236  
Washington, DC 20410-3000  
(202) 402-7698  
[hud.gov/lead](http://hud.gov/lead)

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U. S. EPA Washington DC 20460  
U. S. CPSC Bethesda MD 20814  
U. S. HUD Washington DC 20410

EPA-747-K-12-001  
March 2021

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## IMPORTANT!

### Lead From Paint, Dust, and Soil in and Around Your Home Can Be Dangerous if Not Managed Properly

- Children under 6 years old are most at risk for lead poisoning in your home.
- Lead exposure can harm young children and babies even before they are born.
- Homes, schools, and child care facilities built before 1978 are likely to contain lead-based paint.
- Even children who seem healthy may have dangerous levels of lead in their bodies.
- Disturbing surfaces with lead-based paint or removing lead-based paint improperly can increase the danger to your family.
- People can get lead into their bodies by breathing or swallowing lead dust, or by eating soil or paint chips containing lead.
- People have many options for reducing lead hazards. Generally, lead-based paint that is in good condition is not a hazard (see page 10).



# IDFPR

Illinois Department of  
Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Banking

[idfpr.illinois.gov](http://idfpr.illinois.gov)

**JB PRITZKER**  
Governor

**MARIO TRETO, JR.**  
Secretary

**SUSANA SORIANO**  
Acting Director

For Immediate Release:  
January 3, 2024

## Interest Rates Affecting the Security Deposit Interest Act

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Banking announced today that the interest rate paid by the largest commercial bank with its main banking premises in Illinois on minimum deposit savings accounts as of December 31, 2023 was 0.005% with an Annual Percentage Yield (APY) of 0.01%.

The Security Deposit Interest Act (765 ILCS 715) requires that the lessor of residential real property, consisting of 25 or more units, pay interest to the lessee on any security deposit held for six months or more. Interest must be paid to the lessee in cash or in the form of credit towards rent within 30 days after the end of each 12 month rental period at a rate equal to the interest paid by the largest commercial bank in Illinois on minimum deposit passbook savings accounts as of December 31 of the calendar year preceding the inception of the rental agreement. This Act does not apply to deposits made with respect to public housing, nor to a lessee who is in default under the terms of the lease.

For more information, please see the [Security Deposit Interest Act](#).

As of December 31, 2023, The Northern Trust Company, Chicago was the largest commercial bank with its main banking premises in Illinois.

**IMPORTANT TENANT PHONE NUMBERS**

Landlord \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Management Company \_\_\_\_\_  
(if Applicable) (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Contact Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Owners Association \_\_\_\_\_  
(if Applicable) ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Electric Company \_\_\_\_\_  
(if Applicable) (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Account Number) \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Gas Utility Company \_\_\_\_\_  
(if Applicable) (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Account Number) \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Cable Tv Company \_\_\_\_\_  
(if Applicable) (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Account Number) \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Company \_\_\_\_\_  
(if Applicable) (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Account Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Handy Man \_\_\_\_\_  
(if Applicable) (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Electrician \_\_\_\_\_  
(if Applicable) (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Plumber \_\_\_\_\_  
(if Applicable) (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_