

# COUNTY OF KANE



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## Certain Kane County ZIP Codes at Higher Risk for Pediatric Lead Poisoning

Media Release (10-21-24) In July, the Illinois Department of Public Health released a list of high-risk ZIP codes where testing for lead exposure in children residing there is mandatory. The high-risk ZIP codes in Kane County include 60109, 60110, 60120, 60121, 60123, 60144, 60151, 60505, 60506, and 60507.

Under Illinois law, any child residing in a high-risk ZIP code is to be tested automatically at 12 and 24 months. All children six years of age and younger are required to be assessed for lead exposure by a pediatrician. Children who fall into other risk categories are also tested.

"We take the issue of pediatric lead poisoning very seriously," said Kane County Health Department (KCHD) Executive Director Michael Isaacson. "Lead exposure can have lifelong effects on a child's development and overall health. With several ZIP codes in Kane County identified as high-risk, it is essential that we follow the state's lead testing mandates to ensure the safety and well-being of our children. We urge parents and healthcare providers to prioritize lead screening for children, especially those under six years old, and to take immediate action if exposure is detected. Prevention and early intervention are key to protecting our future generations."

Lead can be found in many places, primarily the walls and windowsills of older homes, drinking water, soil, and even some consumer products. No level of lead in the body is considered safe, especially for young children. The bodies and brains of babies and young children are growing rapidly, and exposure to any amount of lead can cause growth issues, learning disabilities, hearing loss, and speech and memory deficits.

The KCHD Lead Poisoning Prevention Program works closely with families who have a child that has tested positive for lead. Preventive measures you can take at home include frequent handwashing, removing shoes upon entering your home, providing nutritious meals, keeping floors clean, and avoiding planting a vegetable garden in soil around older homes.

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week is October 20-26, 2024. KCHD invites you to listen to the latest episode of the Kane County HealthTalk podcast featuring hosts Maria Leon and Lorena Núñez, along with guests Jennifer Mata-Gomboia, RN, and Yolanda Morris, DNP, MN, RN, as they discuss ways parents can reduce the risk of childhood lead poisoning. Listen here: [Kane County HealthTalk Podcast \(https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/kchdpodcast\)](https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/kchdpodcast)

Additionally, environmental and water supply professionals are invited to "Mitigating Lead Exposure in Public Water Supplies and Homes," a meeting of the Northeastern Illinois Regional Groundwater Protection Planning Committee organized by KCHD in partnership with the City of Elgin on October 23, 2024, at the Heritage Ballroom in Elgin. For more information and to register, visit: [Meeting Registration \(https://redcap.dph.illinois.gov/surveys/?s=83LK9A4LXNK4JCK4\)](https://redcap.dph.illinois.gov/surveys/?s=83LK9A4LXNK4JCK4)

For more information about the KCHD Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and resources for families, homeowners, tenants, and contractors, visit: [KCHD Lead Poisoning Prevention \(https://kanehealth.com/Pages/Lead.aspx\)](https://kanehealth.com/Pages/Lead.aspx)

The full list of pediatric lead poisoning high-risk ZIP codes can be found at: [High-Risk ZIP Codes](#).

