



Rural Revitalization
Corporation

Dangers of Lead

Lead is a toxic metal that can cause **poisoning**. Pregnant women, and young children are at a high risk.

According to the NYS department of health, **lead can harm a young child's growth**, behavior, ability to learn. It can also cause anemia, kidney damage, and hearing loss.

Where is Lead Found?

In houses **built before 1978**. It was sometimes used in **plumbing**, and as additive for **paint**. Children can get lead poisoning from paint chips and lead dust as a result.

Lead can also sometimes be found in consumer goods, such as **toys**. It's important for parents to keep up to date on product recalls. Children should **wash their hands** before they eat to reduce risk.

Important products from around the world such as spices, cosmetics, and candy from the Middle East, Latin America, and China, can contain **dangerous levels of lead**, according to the NYS department of health.

Testing for Lead

Free Child Lead Level Test

It is recommended to test all children at ages 1 and 2. Talk to your child's healthcare provider about testing.

Families that would otherwise be unable to afford it are offered **free lead level testing** for children under the age of 2 by the Cattaraugus County Health Department.

For appointments or information about free child lead tests, call **716-701-3439**. For more information, please visit the Cattaraugus County Department of Health online.

Free Water Lead Test

Catt. County residents are also eligible to have their water tested for the presence of lead under the **Free Lead Testing Pilot Program (FLTTP)**.

To apply, please visit:

<https://www.cattco.org/health/services/free-lead-testing-pilot>

For other water testing services information, please visit:

<https://www.cattco.org/health/services/environmental/laboratory-services/water-testing>