

LEAD HAZARDS IN THE QC

FEBRUARY 18, 2021

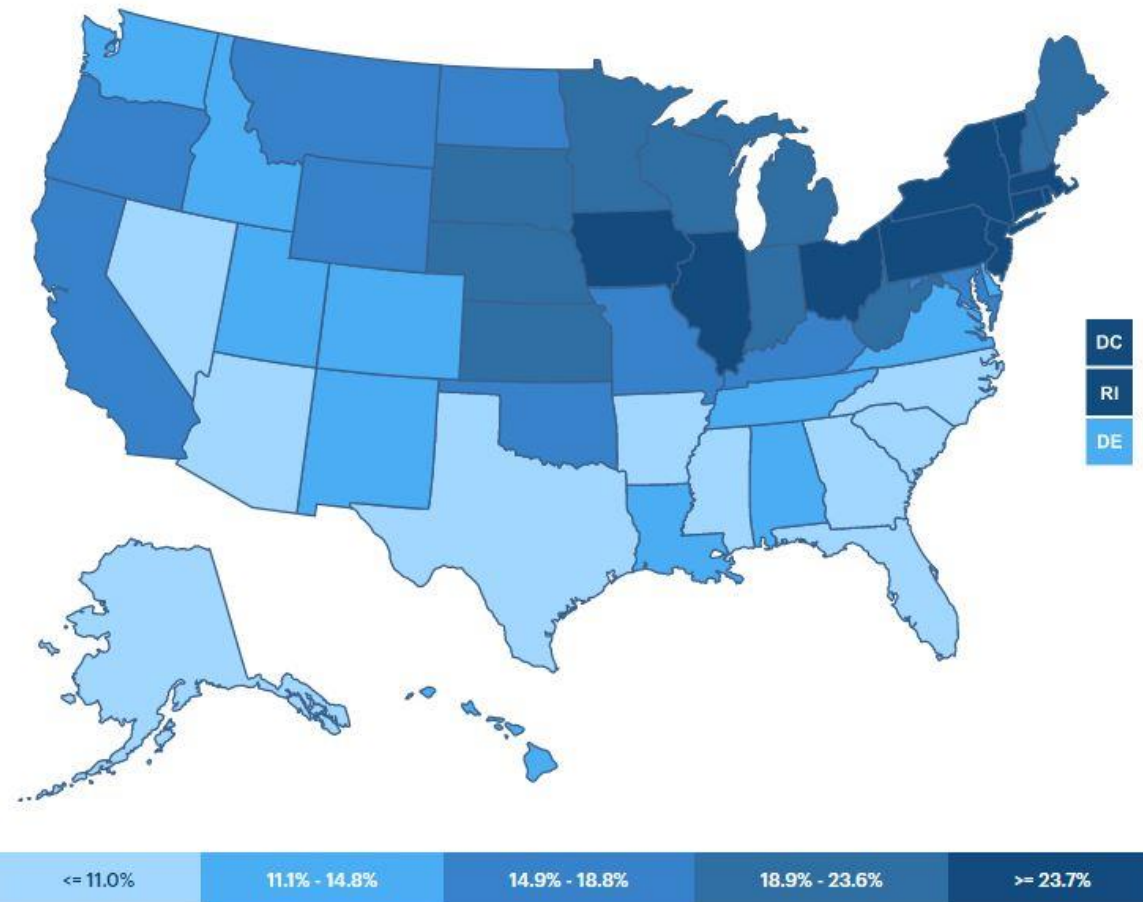
Tony Knobbe, Live Lead Free QC President

Janet Hill, MPH, Chief Operating Officer, Rock Island County Health Department



LEAD IN IOWA AND ILLINOIS

Percentage of housing stock with potential elevated lead risk due to age of housing



- Both Iowa and Illinois are ranked high in homes with lead risk – about 25% in each state – on the United Health Foundation’s “Housing With Lead Risk” list



ROCK ISLAND COUNTY LEAD PROGRAM

Testing:

- Blood lead testing decreased 36.5% in 2020 (from 4,284 to 2,717)
- Despite this, there are still over 80 children with elevated blood levels in the county

Case managers:

- Intervene when a child's BLL is a 5 (venous) or higher
- Educate family during home visit
 - At this time, home visits are suspended due to COVID. Phone assessments are done instead.
- Remain in contact with family to ensure follow-up testing is done
- Refer to State Environmental Lead Risk Assessor for home inspection
- Refer to Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction Grant



SCOTT COUNTY LEAD PROGRAM

Testing:

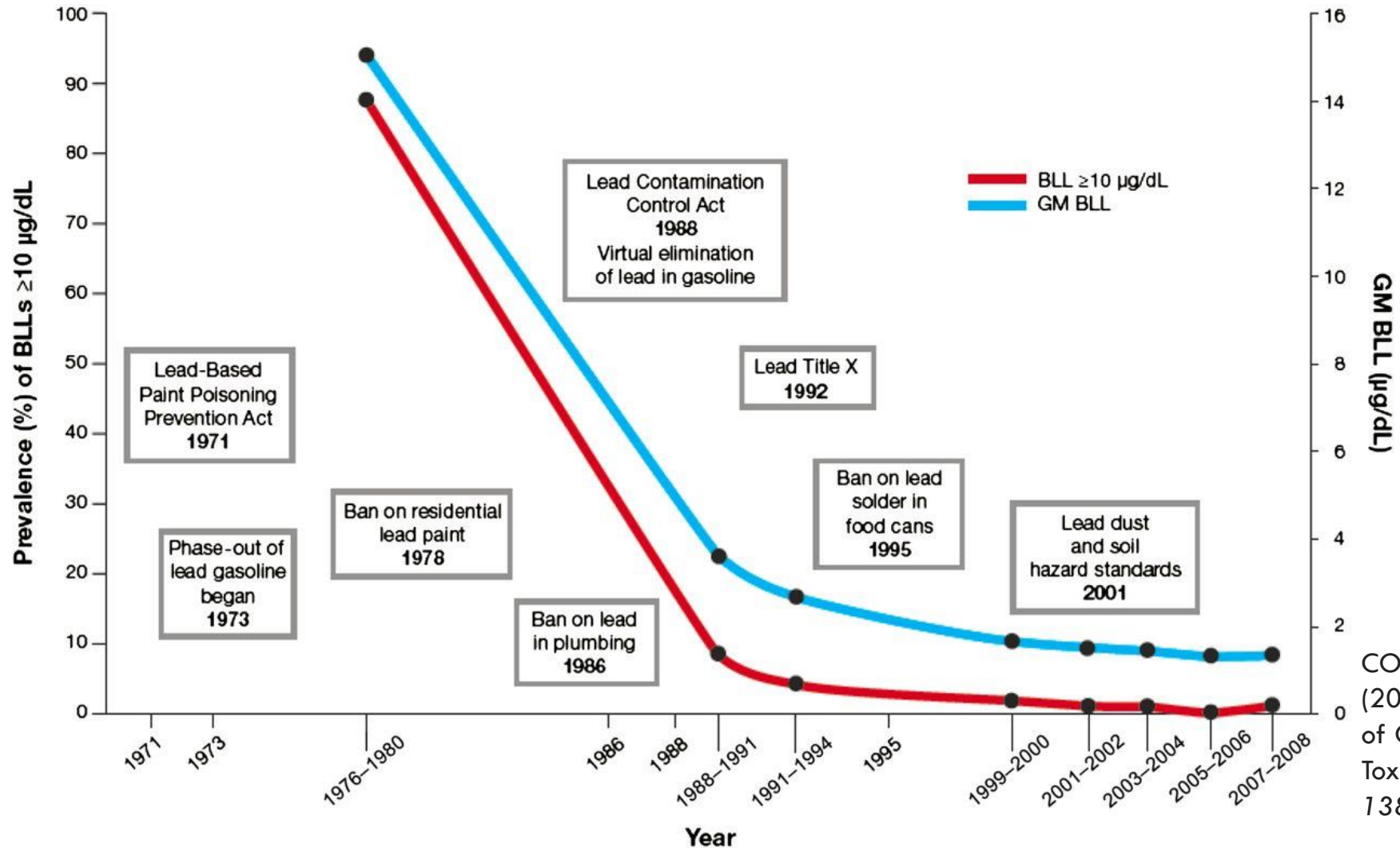
- Blood lead testing decreased 30.6% in 2020 (from 3,789 to 2,626)
- Despite this, there are still 97 children BLL at or above 5 µg/dL

Case managers:

- Intervene when a child's venous BLL is 10 µg/dL or higher and are followed until venous BLL falls below levels set by Iowa Department of Public Health. Other services are offered such as nutritional counseling and developmental screening.
- Educate family about environmental services provided when indicated by IDPH guidelines.
- Offer opportunity to apply for lead renovation funds through [Live Lead Free Quad Cities](#).



HISTORY OF LEAD



COUNCIL, O. E. H. (2016). Prevention of Childhood Lead Toxicity. *Pediatrics*, 138(1).



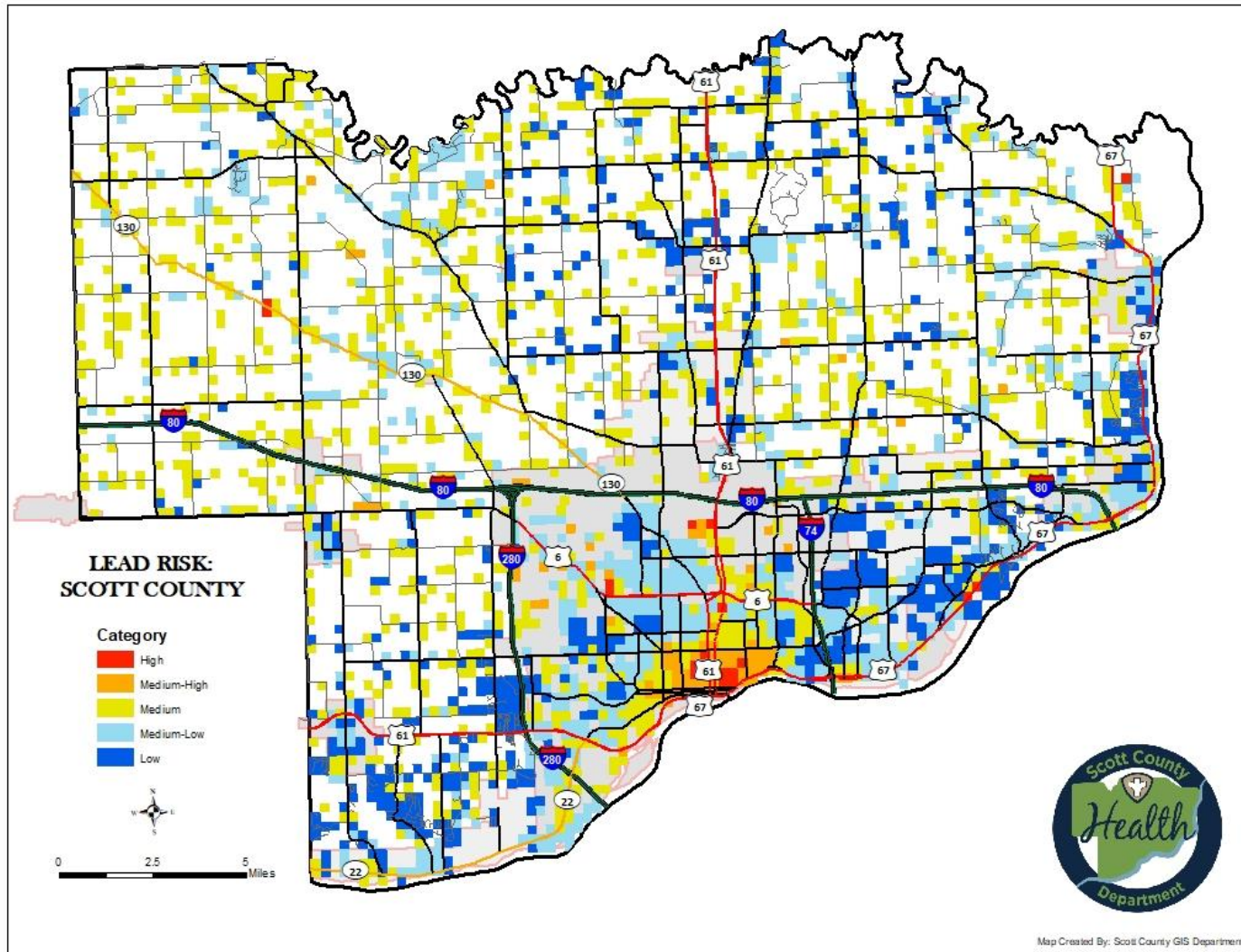
KNOWN LEAD RISK FACTORS

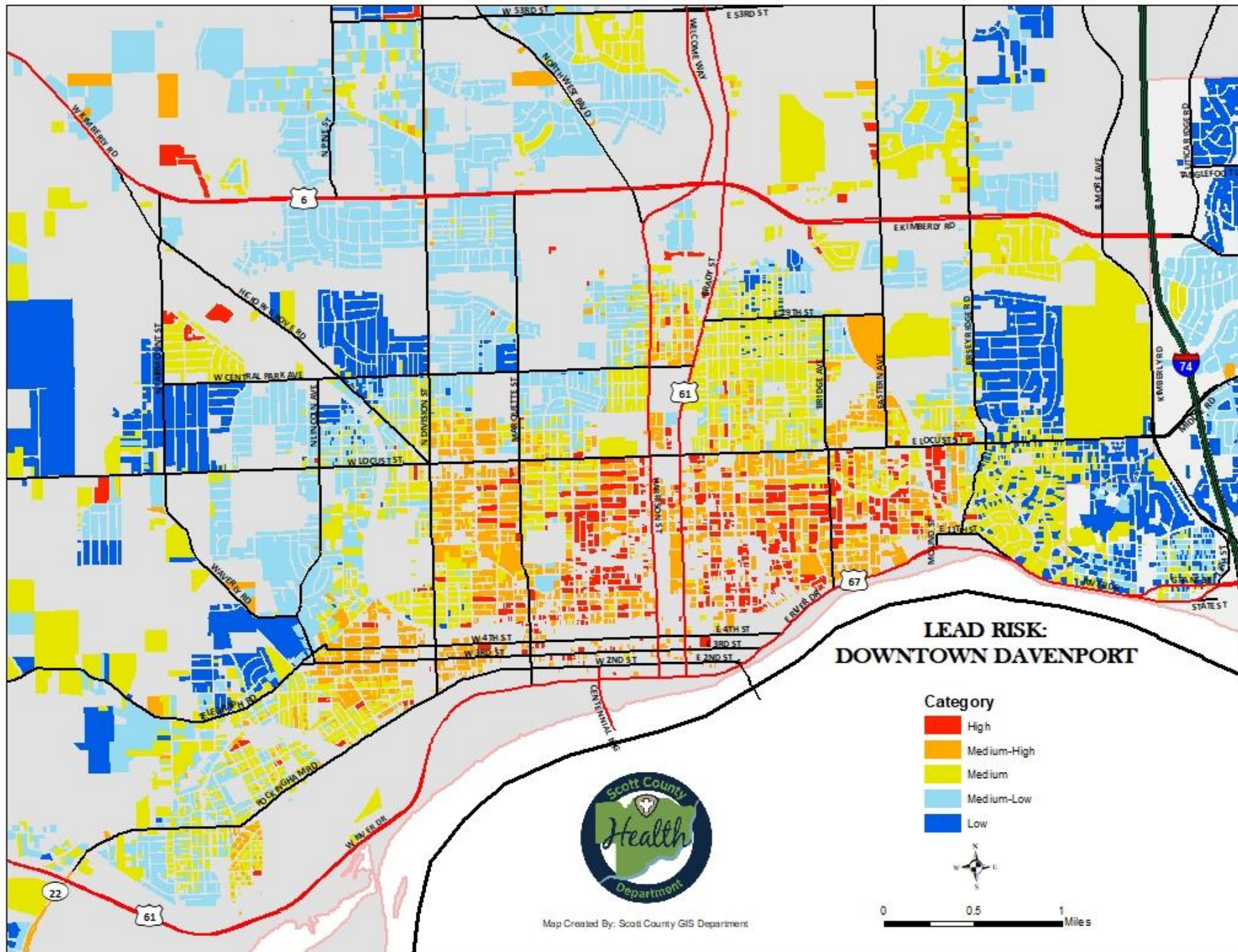
- Housing age (pre-1955 homes highest risk)
- Socio-economic status (lower median family incomes & single-parent households at highest risk)
- Ownership status (renter-occupied at highest risk)
- Race/ethnicity (African American neighborhoods at highest risk)
- Rural/urban status (depends on location)
- Nutritional status (low calcium diets at higher risk)

High maintenance/renovation/remodel costs = lead paint found in older, lower income rental housing in poor condition



SCOTT COUNTY PARTNERSHIP WITH AUGUSTANA





KEY FACTS

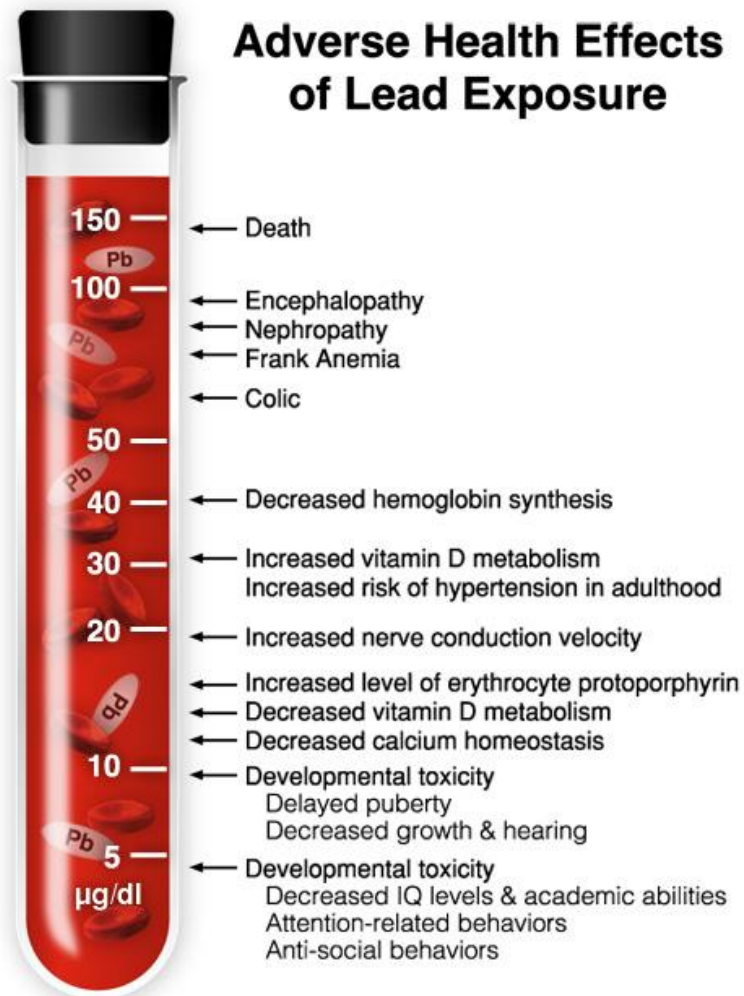


LEAD BASED PAINT

- Lead is a cumulative toxicant that affects multiple body systems and is particularly harmful to young children.
- Lead in the body is distributed to the brain, liver, kidney and bones. It is stored in the teeth and bones, where it accumulates over time.
- Human exposure is usually assessed through the measurement of lead in blood.
- Lead in bone is released into blood during pregnancy and becomes a source of exposure to the developing fetus.
- **There is no known level of lead exposure that is considered safe.**
- **Lead exposure is preventable.**



HEALTH EFFECTS ON CHILDREN



- There is no known safe blood lead concentration.
- As lead exposure increases, the range and severity of symptoms and effects also increases.
- 5 µg/dL may be associated with decreased intelligence in children, behavioral difficulties, and learning problems

WE KNOW THERE IS A PROBLEM. NOW WHAT?



FUNCTION OF LIVE LEAD FREE QC

- Conducting research
- Seeking funds for the mitigation or abatement of lead
- Community collaboration
- Identifying and selecting homes for remediation or abatement
- Providing funds for the remediation or abatement of lead
- Sharing non-confidential information with health care providers
- Education



MEMBERS



FUNDING FOR LIVE LEAD FREE QC

Secured:

- Scott County: \$100,000 (per FY19 and FY20)
- Scott County Regional Authority: \$50,000 (2020)

Seeking funding from:

- National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH)
- Regional Development Authority
- Scott County Regional Authority
- Churches/Civic Clubs/Non-Profits
- Homeowner contributions
- Donations

For every \$1 invested to reduce lead hazards in housing units, society would benefit by an estimated \$17 to \$221, a cost-benefit ratio that is comparable with the cost-benefit ratio for childhood vaccines (Gould, 2009). So \$50,000 invested would conservatively translate to savings of between \$850,000 and \$11 million in local community societal costs

A typical home costs on average \$10,000-20,000 to remediate.



LEAD-BASED PAINT HAZARD REDUCTION GRANT

Program eligibility:

- Must live in Rock Island, Moline, East Moline, or Silvis
- There must be a child younger than 6 living in the home (or spends at least 60 hours a year in the home) OR there must be a pregnant female living in the home
- Home or apartment must have been built prior to 1978
- Total household income must be below the 80% AMI HUD income guidelines*
*specific income guidelines are listed on the application

Application:

- Visit <https://moline.il.us/513/Application-Eligibility> to print
- To request a hard-copy, contact KJ Whitley, program manager, at 309-524-2044



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- Educate clients/public about dangers of lead and how Live Lead Free QC can help
- Financial contributions
- Public awareness about the hazards of lead poisoning

CONTACT US:

<https://www.liveleadfreeqc.org/>

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