Don't Take Lead Dust Home From Work!

Lead is a strong poison. It can damage the brain and nervous system; the digestive system; the reproductive system; the ability to make blood; and the kidneys.

You may be exposed to lead if you work with:

- ammunition
- batteries
- firing range
- demolition
- paint
- pipe
- pottery
- chemicals
- sheet metal
- solder
- tile
- radiator repair
- construction
- welding
- remodeling

Even small amounts of lead can cause permanent damage, including learning disabilities, in young children.

Lead dust can harm children.

- Make sure that you and your children wash hands and face before eating.
- Make sure that you and your children eat a well-balanced diet. Good nutrition helps prevent lead poisoning.

Keep your children from eating things that are not food, such as paint, dirt, or dust.

To prevent carrying lead dust home:

- Shower, wash hair, and change into clean clothes and shoes before leaving work.
- Store street clothes and work clothes in different places.
- Use the ventilation systems at work. Make sure they are working correctly.
- Avoid breathing lead dust and fumes. Use the correct respirator. Make sure it is clean and in good shape. Make sure it fits well.
- Keep work area clean. Do not use compressed air to remove lead dust.
- Use a vacuum with a high efficiency air filter, or use wet cleaning methods, to remove lead dust.
- Do not eat, drink, or smoke in work areas.

If you have questions about lead exposure, please call your local health department or the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services: (609) 984-1863.

This brochure was adapted from "Don't Take Lead Dust Home from Work!" produced by the Texas Department of Health.