

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 25 - 31, 2015

- WHEREAS,** *Marylanders understand that our children are our most treasured gifts, and we must do everything we can do to keep them safe from lead poisoning; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Lead poisoning is a completely preventable disease, but in 2014 there were still 355 children in Maryland poisoned by lead. Not all children in Maryland are tested for lead exposure, even though children with elevated blood lead levels can be found in all parts of the State; and*
- WHEREAS,** *There is no safe blood lead level and even very low, levels of lead can affect children's development, education, and productivity throughout their lives; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Lead poisoning in adults can cause early mortality, cardiovascular disease, neurological and reproductive effects, diseased renal function, and hypertension; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Although Maryland has made tremendous progress in reducing lead poisoning, and only 0.3 percent of children tested in 2014 in Maryland had elevated blood levels, more work is needed to eliminate lead poisoning so that no child suffers from this disease; and*
- WHEREAS,** *State agencies, local governments, landlords, property owners, healthcare insurers and providers, child care providers, schools, the media, and the public all have roles in educating others, preventing lead poisoning; and eradicating this preventable disease; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Governor and the State of Maryland declare their commitment to eliminating the threat of lead poisoning, protecting Maryland families and children, and continuing to build partnerships that will be critical to the elimination of lead poisoning, by recognizing this week as lead poisoning prevention week.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 25 - 31, 2015 as LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this observance to our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 25th day of October
Two Thousand and fifteen

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Byrd H. Pittsford
Lt. Governor

John C. W. W. W.
Secretary of State