Lead Testing Strategies September 2022

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Projects to Improve Testing for Lead



Blood Lead Level Testing

Lead Care II Screening:

- Lowest test-rate providers
- School-based clinics



Environmental Testing

Env. Assessments & Mapping:

- Neighborhood-wide external visual assessments & mapping
- Soil testing & mapping, grades
 6-12 science lab module



Neighborhood Outreach

Community Spaces:

- Cleveland Lead Resource Center
- Utica Empowerment Center
- Rochester Healthy Home Museum

Community Messaging:

- PSA: Testing at Ages 1 & 2
- Mini-documentary: Lead
 Poisoning...The Perfect Predator

Increase Blood Lead Level Testing: Lead Care II



Lowest Test Rate Providers

- Geographic Focus: Utica, Rome, Herkimer, Ilion, Little Falls – New York
- Health Departments identified medical providers with the lowest testing rates
- Herkimer County HealthNet & Health Departments jointly visited providers
- Health Department offered training to medical staff on lead poisoning risks, and testing & screening protocols
- Herkimer County HealthNet offered free Lead Care II machines and test supplies for providers to screen children during their regular in-office check-up visits (no need to go to the lab for a blood draw)



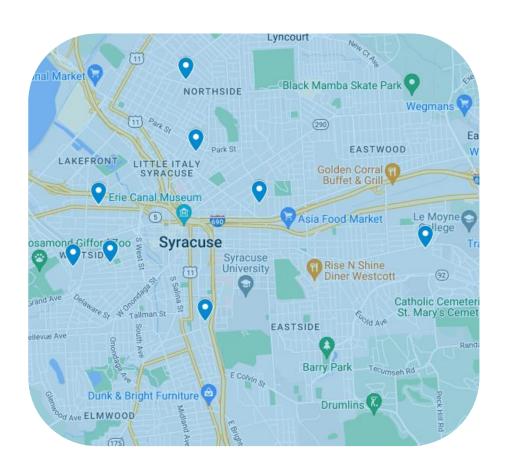
School-Based Clinics

- Geographic Focus: Utica, New York
- Partnered w/ Upstate Family Health Center which runs 3 school-based clinics
- MLK Elementary School is located in a neighborhood w/ high rates of lead poisoning and has a school-based clinic
- Free Lead Care II machine and a year's worth of testing supplies for the clinic
- All students offered lead screening, starting with the kindergarteners
- Educational materials and program referrals sent home with enrolled students

Increase BLL Testing: School Based Clinics in Syracuse



School-Based Clinics Map





Clinic Sponsor Organization:

Syracuse Community Health Center

Elementary Schools:

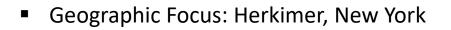
- Dr. Weeks Elementary School
- Franklin Magnet Elementary School
- HW Smith Elementary School
- Westside Academy/Syracuse Stem at Blodgett



Increase Environmental Testing: Neighborhood Assessment



Neighborhood Visual Assessment



- Partnered w/ the Mayor and Herkimer County HealthNet
- 2 summer interns were trained on HUD's visual assessment protocols
- Interns conducted door-to-door neighborhood canvassing to conduct visual inspections from the curb, noting deteriorated paint, window, door, and porch conditions.
- Data were entered into a database and mapped in ARC GIS



Assessment Mapping & Follow-Up

- Lit Drop: Households with deteriorated paint received educational materials on lead-safe renovation
- Referral to Housing Programs: Households received referrals to two housing non-profits with free lead remediation and home improvement programs
- Monitoring for Code Compliance: Results were shared with the Mayor, Code Officer, and Health Department for inspection and enforcement follow-up with problematic landlords

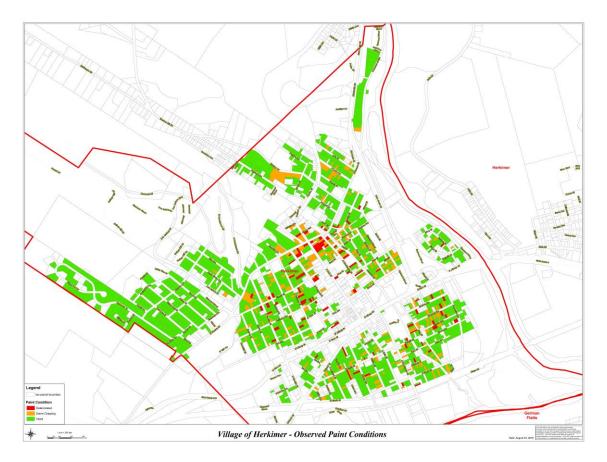
Increase Env. Testing: Neighborhood Assessment Results

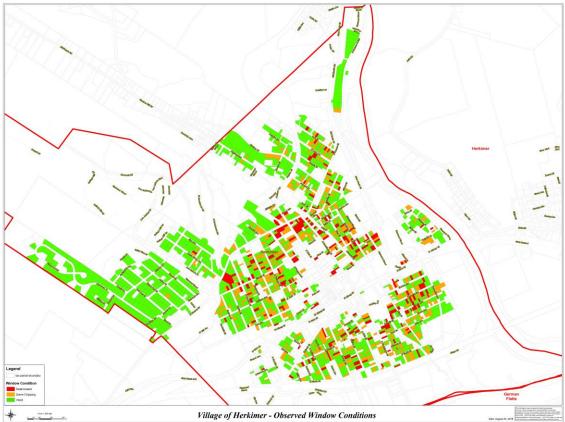


Herkimer, NY: Paint Conditions



Herkimer, NY: Window Conditions





Increase Env. Testing: Neighborhood Assessment Results



Neighborhood Soil Testing

- Geographic Focus: Greenpoint, Brooklyn, New York
- Partnered w/ Columbia University and local public schools
- Columbia University graduate students helped residents in Greenpoint take and test soil samples
- Results of the test were mapped as part of an exploration of the Greenpoint Neighborhood's disproportionate rate of childhood lead exposure
- Demonstrated a correlation between lead in soil and the neighborhood's higher lead exposure rates



Mapping & Follow-Up

- Columbia was working on a grade 6-12 science class module on how to take soil samples, run the soil tests in class, and mitigate risk including receiving free tacky/sticky mats to remove lead dust from the bottoms of shoes
- The goal of the program was to raise awareness, engage students in citizen science, and promote STEM education
- The initial "backyard" testing program was followed up with soil testing projects at City parks and playgrounds
- Free soil testing is offered by ATSDR through its soilSHOP community events

Increase Env. Testing: Neighborhood Assessment Results

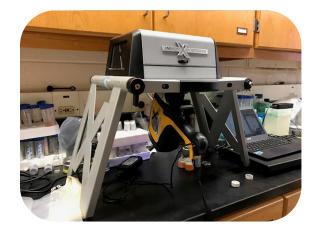


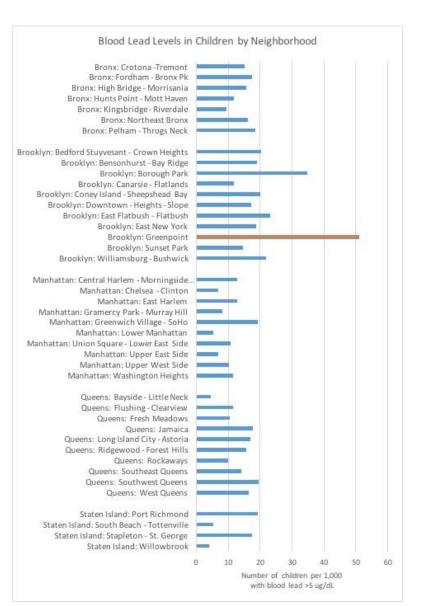
Backyard Soil Sampling Project



Left: Backyard soil sampling equipment

Right: X-ray fluorescence spectrometer (modified for soil testing)





Neighborhood Outreach: Community Centers



Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition

- Geographic Focus: Cleveland, OH
- Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition partnered with Environmental Health Watch to create the Lead Resource Center, a onestop-shop for lead poisoning prevention with the following goals:
- Connect community members to resources, services, and support
- Raise awareness through public education on lead poisoning and prevention
- Connect landlords and tenants to financial resources for lead remediation
- Remediate lead in homes under the City's new lead-safe certification ordinance
- Activate community groups to participate in lead poisoning prevention systems change



Cleveland: Lead Resource Center



Neighborhood Outreach: Community Centers



Lead-Free Mohawk Valley

- Geographic Focus: Utica, NY
- The City of Utica and the HomeOwnershipCenter partnered to create *The Empowerment Center* in the Cornhill neighborhood, which has high rates of lead exposure.
- Includes flexible community meeting space, flexible office space for community outreach workers, client intake, and training space
- The location is also used to host community events, including summer BBQs, family events, and holiday events



Utica: The Empowerment Center





Neighborhood Outreach: Outreach & Education Centers



Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning

- Geographic Focus: Rochester, NY
- A partnership between the Coalition, University of Rochester, Southwest Area Neighborhood Association, and Fatherhood Resource Initiative
- Included exhibits with examples of unhealthy and healthy home components included lead-painted windows, asthma triggers, how to conduct lead-safe cleaning, lead-safe work practices, et cetera.
- The location was used for community and service provider education and training



Rochester: Healthy Home Museum



Neighborhood Outreach: PSAs & Mini-Documentaries



Testing at Ages 1 & 2 Public Service Announcement

- Geographic Focus: Utica & Rome, NY
- A partnership between Lead-Free MV & the Health Department to show PSAs at move theaters, doctor's office waiting rooms, and at social services offices
- Ran during Healthy Homes Month (June) and during Lead Poisoning Prevention Awareness Week (October)





Mini-Documentaries

- Geographic Focus: Syracuse, Utica, Ithaca
- Lead Poisoning... The Perfect Predator
- Partnership of many organizations lead by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County; tells story of lead poisoning from the parent, child, landlord, elected official, health department and physician perspectives





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