



### **Definition of Lead Hazards**

A lead hazard is any condition that exposes children to lead from any source, including but not limited to lead-contaminated water, lead-contaminated dust, lead-contaminated soil, and lead-based paint. Environmental samples are considered to be contaminated with lead if the results are greater than the following levels:

- A. Paint. A paint is considered *lead-based paint* when any paint, varnish, shellac or other surface coating contains more than 5000 parts per million (ppm) by laboratory analysis.

A lead-paint hazard exists when any of the following conditions are true:

- ✓ Paint is deteriorated.  
*[Deteriorated paint means any interior or exterior lead-based paint that is peeling, chipping, blistering, flaking, worn, chalking, alligating, cracking, or otherwise separating from the substrate, or located on any surface or fixture that is damaged.]*
- ✓ Paint is being worn away on a friction surface, such as a window.  
*[Friction surface is any interior or exterior surface subject to abrasion or friction such that it is contributing to the deterioration of lead-based paint or generating lead-contaminated dust.]*
- ✓ Paint is being damaged by repeated impacts, such as on baseboards.  
*[Impact surface is any exterior or interior surface subject to repeated impacts such that it is contributing to the deterioration of lead-based paint or generating lead-contaminated dust.]*
- ✓ Paint is on an accessible hazardous surface, such as a protruding interior window sill, where children can mouth or chew on the surface.  
*[Accessible hazardous surface is any exterior or interior surface that is accessible, mouthable, chewable, and by contact constitutes a lead hazard to children.]*

- B. Dust. Dust is considered contaminated when samples from surface dust contain lead equal to or exceeding 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$  on floors, 40  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$  on other interior horizontal surfaces, 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$  on interior windowsills, and 400  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$  on exterior windowsills and other exterior horizontal surfaces. (San Francisco Health Code, Article 26 and Title 17, Division 1, Chapter 8 of the California Code of Regulations, Toxics Substances Control Act, Section 403.)

- C. Soil. When bare soil samples contain greater than or equal to 400 parts per million total lead, the soil is considered lead-contaminated.

- D. Water. Lead-contaminated water contains greater than or equal to 15 parts per billion (ppb) of lead.