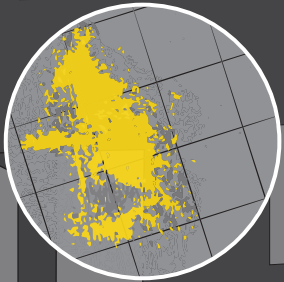
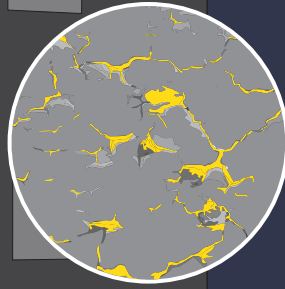


WHERE'S THE LEAD COMING FROM?

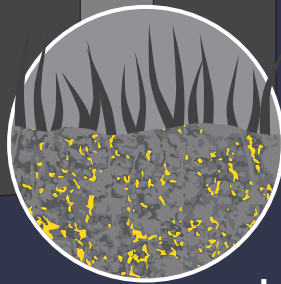
HOUSEHOLD DUST



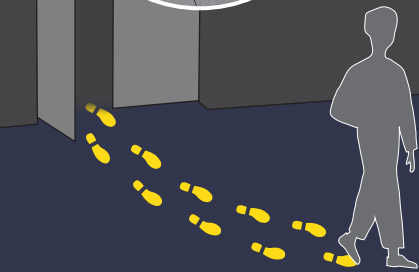
CHIPPED LEAD PAINT



CONTAMINATED SOIL



TRACKED ALL OVER



Lead, a toxic heavy metal, is present in the paint of many buildings built **before 1978**.

When paint degrades over time, children risk acute exposure through eating toxic paint chips. That lead also builds up in dust, which readily inhaled and ingested and is easily spread from unit to unit, person to person, even to the soil, making **lead contamination a problem for the entire building**.

Landlords often **don't inspect or abate housing** before leasing to tenants.

Health departments won't intervene until a child is **already positive for lead poisoning**.

Yet the CDC warns **there is no safe level of lead exposure**.



LANDLORDS AND THE STATE WILL NOT KEEP YOU SAFE

TENANT ORGANIZING WILL

Lead accumulates in bone, where it will stay for **decades**, leaching into the blood and causing many chronic health conditions.

In adults, lead poisoning can also cause high blood pressure, joint and muscle pain, and miscarriage.

Children absorb lead faster than adults and are at higher risk of lead poisoning, but lead is still dangerous to **everyone**.

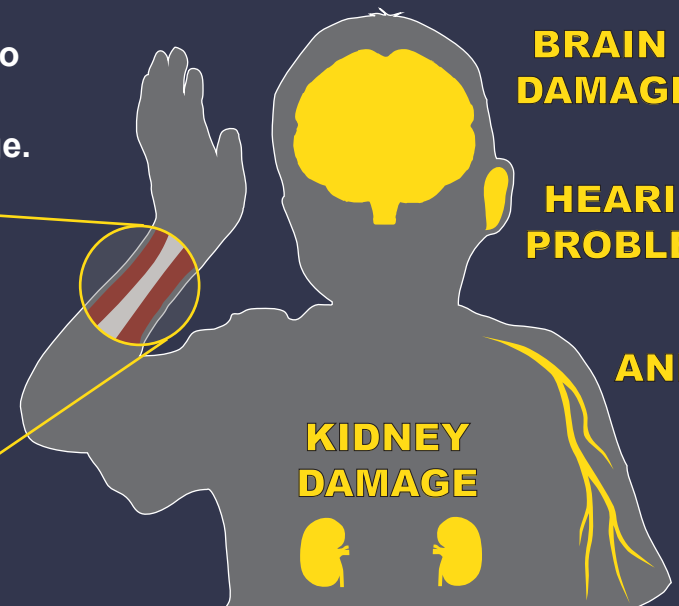


BRAIN DAMAGE

HEARING PROBLEMS

ANEMIA

KIDNEY DAMAGE



CARGILL TENANTS UNION



Though lead regulations have existed for decades, the “affordable” Cargill Falls complex opened half-finished **with acute health hazards**.



Through the pressure of a rent strike, the Cargill Tenants Union won:

- JAN 2023  Lead inspections of all units with children
- MAR-APR 2023  Abatement of those units
- NOV 2023  Comprehensive lead inspection of the entire building
- MAR 2024  EPA-issued order for immediate lead abatement

When state oversight **fails** to keep tenants safe from negligent, greedy landlords, **direct collective action is necessary**.

Our strength is in numbers and solidarity. By **joining together as a tenant union**, we can win safe housing and withstand retaliation.

WE KEEP OURSELVES SAFE



TENANT ORGANIZING WORKS

A tenant union begins with **conversations between neighbors**. Programs like the Emergency Tenant Organizing Committee (ETOC) offer mentorship and resources – all you need is **three or more tenants** interested in taking control over their housing.



Scan the QR code for links to learn more about lead hazards and tenant organizing or go to bit.ly/

TOXIC LEAD IN YOUR HOME

THE SOURCES

THE HAZARDS

THE SOLUTION

*Developed by Science for the People - New Haven
and the Cargill Tenants Union*