

A response to crisis: Lead Advocacy in Delaware

Community Based Lead Reduction Initiatives

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Almost 20 years prior...

High lead levels found under bridge

Author: Gopal, Prashant

[ProQuest document link](#)

Abstract:

By PRASHANT GOPAL Staff reporter Federal officials have found significant lead contamination on five residential properties under the aging St. Georges Bridge, which for years has rained paint chips on houses below.

State may replace corps for St. Georges cleanup

Author: Montgomery, Jeff

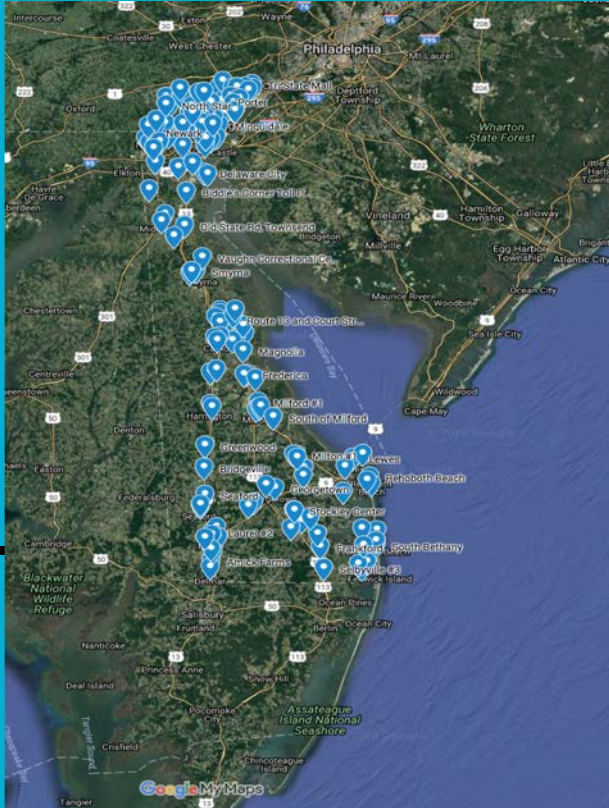
[ProQuest document link](#)

Abstract:

State Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control officials recently criticized the corps for not starting an immediate cleanup of residential property contaminated by lead paint chips from the 59-year-old span the corps is sand-blasting and repainting. State tests found fallen paint chips have contaminated the yards of 37 homes and soil must be removed to eliminate the lead, which is a hazard because it could be ingested.



A problem is sometimes
noticed by what *seems to be* just one or two people



“Trust industry”

The lead loophole that DNREC must fix



DELAWARE VOICE
SARAH B. BUCIC

We know lead is dangerous. Ingesting lead causes neurological damage, resulting in behavioral and learning disabilities that ruin children's lives. It's so dangerous that it was banned

bles are grown. No one is checking to make sure that health and safety procedures are followed. No one is monitoring the process at all. Companies that sandblast lead paint are not even required to notify the neighbors about the lead, which is a hazardous waste.

I discovered the lead exemption loophole last summer when a Suez water utility employee knocked on my front door and told me that they would

And it isn't just happening in my backyard. Once you look for water towers, you will see them everywhere. There are at least 159 water tanks in Delaware. There could be more. Nobody keeps track of them, or whether they have lead paint, so there are a lot of unknowns.

The Secretary of DNREC was petitioned beginning in January, and again in March, to remove this regulatory

a baseball field. If these water towers contain lead paint, the children that use these facilities are all at risk of exposure.

Our children deserve the opportunity for fulfilling productive lives that are not burdened by childhood exposure to lead paint because the state of Delaware exempted the sandblasting of outdoor structures from regulations. Regulations intended to protect the health and



1 Freedom of Information Act exposed a crisis, family was not informed of lead hazard



Not just an old house issue



Role:
**Holding Government Accountable for
Children's Health**



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