

# Implementation Status of EPA Actions Under the 2018 Federal Action Plan To Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts: Fiscal Year 2019, 2nd Quarter

## GOAL 1: REDUCE CHILDREN'S EXPOSURE TO LEAD SOURCES

Objective	Action	Status*	2Q FY 19 Accomplishments	3Q Next Steps	More Information
<b>Objective: 1.1</b>  <b>Reduce Children's Exposure in Homes and Child-Occupied Facilities with Lead-Based Paint Hazards</b>	Consider revisions, as appropriate, to the dust-lead hazard standards to address childhood exposures to lead-contaminated dust generated from lead-based paint.	On track	Conducted rulemaking activities.	EPA plans to issue a final rule by summer 2019.	EPA proposed to strengthen the dust-lead hazard standards for floors and window sills. These standards apply to most pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities, such as daycare centers and kindergarten facilities. Lead dust can be a major source of lead exposure in children and the new proposed standards for lead in dust will be an important step to reduce lead exposure among children.
	Continue to implement regulations and other relevant authorities that require individuals and firms conducting lead-based paint abatement, risk assessment or inspection to be properly trained and certified, training programs to be accredited and these activities to be conducted according to reliable, effective and safe work practice standards.	On track	Provided support to EPA, states, tribes, federal agencies and the public for implementation of these regulations.	Report the number of compliance assistance and outreach activities that support the abatement, risk assessment and inspection components of the Lead-Based Paint Program.	Examples of activities may include: outreach, education, oversight and processing accreditation applications.  EPA provides annual funding to authorized states and tribal programs that administer training and certification programs for lead professionals and renovation contractors.
	Increase the number (or percentage) of certified renovation firms capable of providing lead-safe renovation, repair and painting services through targeted outreach campaigns to contractors; continue to provide a nationwide list of certified renovation firms on EPA's website.	On track	Updated list of certified renovation firms.  Conducted compliance assistance to increase the number of RRP certified firms.  Completed planning for a pilot project in six cities to increase the number of RRP certified firms and trained contractors. Conducted outreach and education activities to support the RRP Program.	Publish updated list of certified renovation firms on <a href="#">EPA website</a> .  Report number of RRP firms certified and trained contractors in 3rd Quarter.  Target additional resources in the same six cities to increase the number of RRP certified firms and trained contractors.	In 2016, EPA targeted six cities across the U.S. for outreach, training for contractors and enforcement of the RRP rule during National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week in October 2016. In 2019, the EPA will continue to provide outreach events aimed specifically at reaching contractors by working with building code officials, hardware stores and industry trade associations and hold at least one outreach event per city to reach contractors.  EPA provides annual funding to authorized states and tribal programs that administer training and certification programs for lead professionals and renovation contractors.

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<b>Objective 1.2</b>  <b>Reduce Exposure to Lead from Drinking Water</b>	Revise the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) based on input EPA recently received from state, tribal and local partners, as well as the best available peer reviewed science, to ensure the rule reflects the best ways to improve public health protection and reduce levels of lead in drinking water.	On track	Continued analysis to support preparation of a proposal for revisions to the LCR and supporting technical documentation.	Prepare Federal Register for proposal of LCR revisions, technical support documents (including the Health Risk Reduction Cost Analysis) and administrative record.  Propose revisions to the LCR by summer 2019.	
	Enhance implementation of the LCR by engaging with state, tribal, local and other stakeholders to identify implementation challenges, best practices and tools to address these challenges.	On track	Hosted the first in a series of webinars on lead service line replacement. This series showcases best practices for states and utilities implementing a voluntary lead service line replacement program. March's webinar included speakers from Washington State, Department of Health and D.C. Water.  EPA HQ and all 10 EPA regions met regularly to discuss LCR challenges and strengthen implementation nationwide. This effort includes quarterly reviews of lead exceedance data and system violations reported to the Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS).	Release an updated version of the Optimal Corrosion Control Treatment (OCCT) manual. This new version will incorporate technical updates and feedback states have provided since the manual's initial release in March 2016.  Continue to host webinars on lead service line replacement. This series showcases best practices for states and utilities implementing a voluntary lead service line replacement program.  Continue to meet regularly to discuss LCR challenges and strengthen implementation nationwide.  The LCR includes requirements for utilities to communicate important lead information about health effects, sources, what consumers can do and what your utility is doing to reduce exposure.	<a href="#">View Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) tools and resources</a>  <a href="#">EPA's Leaders in Reducing Lead in Drinking Water</a>

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<p><b>Objective 1.2</b></p> <p><b>Reduce Exposure to Lead from Drinking Water</b></p>	<p>Assist schools and child care centers with the 3Ts approach (Training, Testing and Taking Action) to reduce lead in drinking water and increase the number of schools and child care centers that test and provide parents with information on how to minimize children's exposure to lead in drinking water.</p>	<p>On track</p>	<p>Released a revised 3Ts toolkit to assist those implementing lead monitoring in schools and child care facilities in October 2018. The revised version is available in an interactive web-format and includes modules and customizable templates. EPA recognizes that communicating early and often about testing plans, results and next steps will build confidence in a school's ability to provide a safe environment. To improve communication with community members and parents, EPA has added an additional communication tool in 27 languages: Translations for English Instructions.</p> <p>Worked with states, utilities and local organizations to showcase efforts across the country and added additional case studies to the Leaders in Reducing Lead in Drinking Water map.</p>	<p>Continue to work with states, utilities and local organizations to showcase efforts across the country.</p> <p>Continue to add additional case studies to the Leaders in Reducing Lead in Drinking Water map.</p> <p>Update an existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Reducing Lead Levels in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities. The updated MOU will include current and new partners aimed to provide a more meaningful coordinated approach to help schools and child care programs. This will be done in conjunction with the recently revised 3Ts toolkit and the newly announced Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Programs Drinking Water grant authorized by the WIIN Act.</p> <p>Update the 2006 list of 65 funding sources for schools to test for and remediate lead in drinking water. This update will include the previously identified sources, the newly released WIIN grants and additional new sources.</p>	<p><a href="#">View tools and resources to reduce lead in drinking water in schools and child care facilities.</a></p>

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<b>Objective 1.2</b> <b>Reduce Exposure to Lead from Drinking Water</b>	Finalize regulatory changes to the definition of lead-free plumbing products and make other conforming changes to implement the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act and the Community Fire Safety Act enacted by Congress. The final regulation is expected to result in fewer sources of lead in drinking water by implementing new standards for lead content in plumbing materials used in new installations and repairs.	Delayed	Considered comments on the proposed rule to inform final and conduct additional analysis to support preparation of a final rule.	Prepare regulatory and supporting technical documentation for the final rule to be published in winter 2019-2020.	
	Collaborate with state and tribes to provide opportunities for low-interest loans and grants through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act loan program for updating and replacing drinking water infrastructure.	On track	Developed a new factsheet on Addressing Lead in Drinking Water with the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and case studies. Eligibilities between the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) overlap.	Release DWSRF factsheet and case studies by the end of March 2019.  Continue working with WIFIA's FY18 Selected Projects (12 projects will reduce lead or other drinking water contaminants) to apply for WIFIA financing.	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/drinkingwatersrf/reports-and-fact-sheets-about-drinking-water-state-revolving-fund-dwsrf">https://www.epa.gov/drinkingwatersrf/reports-and-fact-sheets-about-drinking-water-state-revolving-fund-dwsrf</a>  <a href="#">WIFIA FY18 Selected Projects</a>
	Implement three newly authorized grant programs under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act, for which Congress appropriated \$50 million in FY 2018, to fund grants to small and disadvantaged communities for developing and maintaining infrastructure, for lead reduction projects and to support the voluntary testing of drinking water in schools and child care centers. These programs decrease exposure to lead in drinking water by providing financial incentives to test, educate and replace infrastructure.	On track	Sent out letters to state governors announcing the Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Programs Drinking Water Grant authorized by the WIIN Act. At the beginning of this 2019, EPA received letters from all 50 States and the District of Columbia confirming their commitment to reducing lead in drinking water in schools and to participate in this new grant.  Expect to notify states and the District of Columbia funding allotments for the Lead Testing in School and Child Care Programs Drinking Water Grant in March 2019.  Hosting webinars for states on the new grant guidance.  Conducting the tribal consultation for the Lead in Drinking Water Grant authorized by the WIIN Act through March 2019.	Review state workplans for the Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Programs Drinking Water Grant authorized by the WIIN Act and begin the process to award grants to states.  Develop tribal grant guidance.  Finalize the request for application for the Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Grant authorized by the WIIN Act and prepare for release in 4Q.	<a href="#">View more information on the WIIN Grants</a>

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<b>Objective 1.3</b>  <b>Reduce Exposure to Lead in Soil</b>	Manage lead contamination at Superfund, RCRA Corrective Action and other sites to reduce exposure to community residents.	On track	Reduced exposure to community members by continual efforts to manage 1,212 Superfund sites with lead as a contaminant of concern.  Completed eight consultations at Superfund lead sites thus far in FY19.	Continue to manage lead contamination at Superfund, RCRA Corrective Action and other sites to reduce exposure to community residents. Efforts expected to include:  Updating lead technical information and tools for application of the Integrated Exposure Uptake Biokinetic (IEUBK) lead model.  Validating IEUBK model for use with updated input parameters.  Conducting additional superfund site lead consultations.	
	Continue to reduce childhood exposures to lead in soils through removal, remedial and corrective actions at contaminated sites and reduce lead soil exposures to the most sensitive community residents.	On track	EPA conducted removal actions at 49 sites with lead as a contaminant of concern.	Continue to reduce childhood exposures to lead in soils through removal, remedial and corrective actions at contaminated sites and reduce lead soil exposures to the most sensitive community residents.	

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<b>Objective 1.3</b> <b>Reduce Exposure to Lead in Soil</b>	Continue to support the evaluation of lead exposure at contaminated sites and identify ways to protect the public's health.	On track	Controlled human exposure at one additional Superfund site.	Continue to support the evaluation of lead exposure at contaminated sites and identify ways to protect the public's health. Actions will include distributing outreach materials to regions gathered through the Interagency Task Force.	
<b>Objective 1.4</b> <b>Reduce Exposure to Lead Associated with Emissions to Ambient Air</b>	Continue to work with state and tribal air agencies to implement the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for lead and aim to reduce the number of areas violating the lead NAAQS.	On track	Generated preliminary Design Values (2016-2018) for all 2008 NAAQS nonattainment areas and other violating areas.	Continue to work with states to monitor lead emissions and work towards taking action on 2008 Lead NAAQS redesignation requests and maintenance plans.	Eleven of the 22 initial areas designated nonattainment for the 2008 Pb NAAQS are attaining. For the majority of the remaining nonattainment areas, lead emissions and monitored concentrations are declining due to implemented control measures and all nonattainment areas have fulfilled air quality implementation plan requirements.  <a href="https://www.epa.gov/green-book/green-book-lead-2008-area-information">https://www.epa.gov/green-book/green-book-lead-2008-area-information</a>
	Evaluate the impacts of lead emissions from aircraft using leaded aviation fuel under the Clean Air Act.	On track	Completing two technical reports: Airborne Lead Concentrations at Airports Nationwide and Populations Residing Near or Attending School Near U.S. Airports.	Post the two completed technical reports to EPA's website.	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/airport-lead-monitoring-and-modeling">https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/airport-lead-monitoring-and-modeling</a>

## GOAL 2: IDENTIFY LEAD-EXPOSED CHILDREN AND IMPROVE THEIR HEALTH OUTCOMES

EPA's federal partners lead the actions under Goal 2 which are focused on improving the identification of children exposed to lead through surveillance of blood lead level data and improving access to services and support designed to improve children's physical, developmental and mental health. Please visit <https://ptfceh.niehs.nih.gov/> for future updates on Goal 2 of the Federal Lead Action Plan.

## GOAL 3: COMMUNICATE MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Objective	Action	Status*	2Q FY 19 Accomplishments	3Q Next Steps	More Information
<b>Objective 3.1</b>  <b>Consolidate and Streamline Federal Lead-Related Communication and Messaging</b>	Create an online portal to enhance, consolidate and streamline federal-wide communication to the public. Links will direct the public to agency-specific information. (Not everyone affected by lead exposures has access to the internet and therefore, agencies will continue to provide access to printed materials).	On Track	Refreshed EPA links to lead resources and made sure that relevant links that were not currently located on <a href="https://www.epa.gov/lead">https://www.epa.gov/lead</a> are linked to the website.	Continue to refresh links and connect links to web page as applicable.	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/lead">https://www.epa.gov/lead</a>
	Provide periodic updates on the progress of implementing the Action Plan on the online portal.	On Track	Created Implementation Status for EPA Actions Under the 2018 Federal Action Plan: To Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts web page.	Will update web page periodically.	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/leadactionplanimplementation">https://www.epa.gov/leadactionplanimplementation</a> .

## GOAL 3: COMMUNICATE MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Objective	Action	Status*	2Q FY 19 Accomplishments	3Q Next Steps	More Information
<b>Objective 3.2</b>  <b>Improve Awareness of Lead Hazards, Prevention and Remediation among Diverse Populations, Especially Those Most at Risk</b>	Utilize the Children’s Centers and PEHSUs to develop appropriate, evidence-based lead exposure prevention and intervention communication materials and disseminate them through the Centers’ established community partnerships.	On Track	Provided \$1,128,425 for fiscal year 2019 to support the PEHSU network. Continued to play a partnership role in the PEHSU program, making recommendations to ATSDR on program design, management and direction and by annually providing 35 to 40% of the funding support. In addition, the children’s environmental health coordinators in EPA regional offices work regularly with their PEHSU counterparts to plan and implement children’s environmental health outreach and education efforts in communities across the region.	Continue to support the work of PEHSUs in providing expert consultations to health care providers on prevention, diagnosis and treatment of lead exposure during pregnancy and childhood; addressing childhood lead exposure in grand rounds, medical and nursing educational settings and seminars; providing expertise to lay audiences through briefings, conferences and webinars; and, collaborating with research centers on research translation and messaging on a variety of children’s health issues, including lead.	PEHSUs are a twenty-year-old network of experts uniquely qualified to train health care providers on the prevention, diagnosis, management and treatment of lead exposure in children. There are 11 units around the country, several of which were originally lead clinics. EPA provides support to the PEHSU program that ATSDR designs, funds and manages.  Learn more at: <a href="https://www.pehsu.net/">https://www.pehsu.net/</a>
	Enhance partnerships with state, tribal and local governments and key stakeholders (e.g., media, community groups, faith-based groups, advocacy groups, departments of health, departments of environmental quality, medical providers, philanthropies, federal grantees and others) that represent or serve communities at risk for childhood lead exposure.	On Track	Completed draft lesson plans for tribal lead curriculum – Lead Awareness in Indian Country: Keeping our Children Healthy!  Conducted working session on the tribal lead curriculum at the March 2019 National Tribal Toxics Council Meeting.	Plan and conduct pilot(s) with tribal partners.	The curriculum was developed in partnership with the National Tribal Toxics Council and the EPA-Tribal Science Council. The purpose of the curriculum is to increase understanding and awareness of childhood lead exposures, health effects and preventative actions. Four modules were created: 1) Understanding Lead; 2) Cleaning Techniques; 3) Personal Hygiene and Nutrition; and 4) Hiring Lead Professionals.

## GOAL 4: SUPPORT AND CONDUCT CRITICAL RESEARCH TO INFORM EFFORTS TO REDUCE LEAD EXPOSURES AND RELATED HEALTH RISKS

Objective	Action	Status*	2Q FY 19 Accomplishments	3Q Next Steps	More Information
<b>Key Priorities:</b>  <b>Prioritize and Address the Critical Research and Data Needs to Inform Lead Policies and Guide Decisions</b>	Enhance and apply data and tools (e.g., models or approaches) and determine the key drivers of blood lead levels from multimedia exposures to inform lead regulatory decisions and site assessments.	On Track	Continued to co-lead the development of a cross agency research workshop with NIEHS, CDC and HUD.  Applied lead multimedia exposure and biokinetic models in support of the forthcoming final dust- lead hazard standards.	Provide materials for All-Ages Lead Model (AALM) to EPA Science Advisory Board for external peer review.	
	Generate data, maps and mapping tools to identify high exposure communities or locations and disparities for prioritization efforts to reduce children's blood lead levels.	On Track	Continued to co-lead the development of a cross agency research workshop with NIEHS, CDC and HUD.  Provided technical assistance to EPA Region 5 partners in support of their efforts to identify high exposure locations.	Explore opportunities to provide technical assistance to other regional partners as they work on identifying high exposure locations.	
	Generate data to address critical gaps for reducing uncertainty in lead modeling and mapping for exposure/ risk analyses and for estimating population-wide health benefits of actions to reduce lead exposures.	On Track	Continued to co-lead the development of a cross agency research workshop with NIEHS, CDC and HUD.  Conducting initial analysis of incoming multimedia samples from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development sponsored American Healthy Homes Survey II.  Sponsored public webinar on small drinking water systems, "Actual vs. Predicted: Lead Scale Observations from the Field;" "Destabilization of Lead Pipe Scales in a Long-Term Vacant Home in Cincinnati."	Continue receipt and analysis of incoming multimedia samples from the HUD sponsored American Healthy Homes Survey II.  Conduct data analyses for children's soil/ dust ingestion rates in support of future modeling.	For more information on the HUD sponsored American Healthy Homes Survey II, visit: <a href="https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/healthy_homes/ahhs_ii">https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/healthy_homes/ahhs_ii</a> .
	Identify approaches to prevent, mitigate and communicate about lead exposures and risks in exposed communities.	On Track	Continued to co-lead the development of a cross agency research workshop with NIEHS, CDC and HUD.  Created tool for identifying point of use filters certified to reduce lead.  Provided ongoing technical support to assess effectiveness of corrosion control treatment in multiple cities, applying innovative lead mitigation methods for addressing lead in drinking water.	Conduct public small drinking water systems workshop at EPA Region 6, May 21-22, 2019.  Provide ongoing technical support to assess effectiveness of corrosion control treatment in multiple cities, applying innovative lead mitigation methods for addressing lead in drinking water.	<a href="https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-pou-drinking-water-filters-certified-reduce-lead">https://www.epa.gov/water-research/consumer-tool-identifying-pou-drinking-water-filters-certified-reduce-lead</a>

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<p><b>Key Priorities:</b></p> <p><b>Prioritize and Address the Critical Research and Data Needs to Inform Lead Policies and Guide Decisions</b></p>	<p>Evaluate the effectiveness of actions (e.g., interventions, programs, policies, enforcement) to prevent lead exposure, mitigate health effects and communicate on lead exposures/risks.</p>	<p>On Track</p>	<p>Continued to co-lead the development of a cross agency research workshop with NIEHS, CDC and HUD.</p>	<p>EPA, with support from the Douglas County Health Department and the City of Omaha, is conducting a study to determine the effectiveness of the actions to address lead contamination in residential soil, dust and paint at the Omaha Lead Superfund Site in reducing elevated blood-lead levels in young children.</p>	