

Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site, Inc.

Public Statement: Lead-based Paint Hazard

Eastern State Penitentiary is a historic site dating back over 130 years. Some areas of the penitentiary have been built, renovated and maintained by painting surfaces with lead-based paints, a common practice in public, commercial and residential premises prior to being outlawed in the late 1970's. Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site has an Operations and Maintenance Program (O&M) directed at controlling and eliminating worker and public exposure to lead at the Penitentiary.

Eastern State Penitentiary periodically tests public and work areas for airborne concentrations of lead dust. Air sample results have routinely indicated no detectable levels of exposure at the Penitentiary. Based on the air monitoring results, Eastern State Penitentiary is compliant with all applicable Federal, State and City of Philadelphia lead requirements.

Ingesting lead paint debris can be hazardous to young children. All visitors - especially guardians, pregnant people, and young children - are encouraged to practice personal hygiene like hand washing before eating or touching their face or mouth.

Eastern State's O&M program is designed to protect workers while cleaning and renovating the site. This program includes routine site inspections, cleaning and maintenance requirements, personal protective measures and personal hygiene requirements while working with or around lead based paints. The goal at Eastern State Penitentiary is the preservation of this historic site while ensuring the safety of our workers and the general public.

Prepared by TVSA, LLC – Certified Industrial Hygienist, 2025