



Lead in Soil Near Residential Areas

Residential Lead Guidance

Protecting children from lead exposure is one of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's top priorities. EPA has guidance to protect families from lead-contaminated soil where children live, learn and play. EPA site teams are determining how the guidance impacts each site, which in some cases may take years. EPA encourages people in areas that may have lead-contaminated soil to learn how to reduce their exposure to lead.

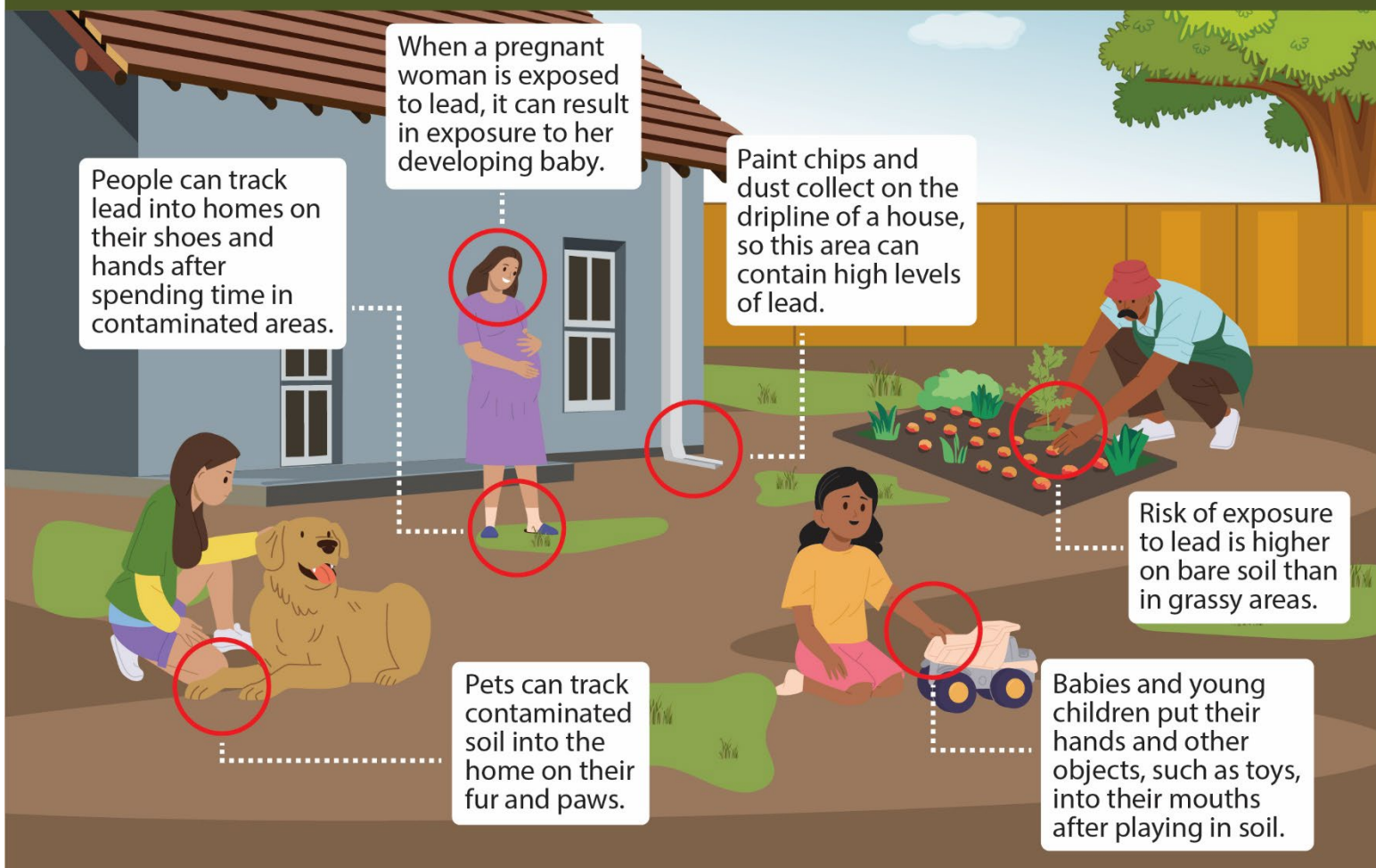
What Is Lead?

- It is a naturally occurring element found in the Earth's crust.
- It is used widely in the production of **batteries**, **ammunition** and **metal products** (solder and pipes).
- **Lead paint** from buildings, the previous use of **leaded gasoline in cars**, **industrial sources** and **former lead smelters** can contaminate soil.

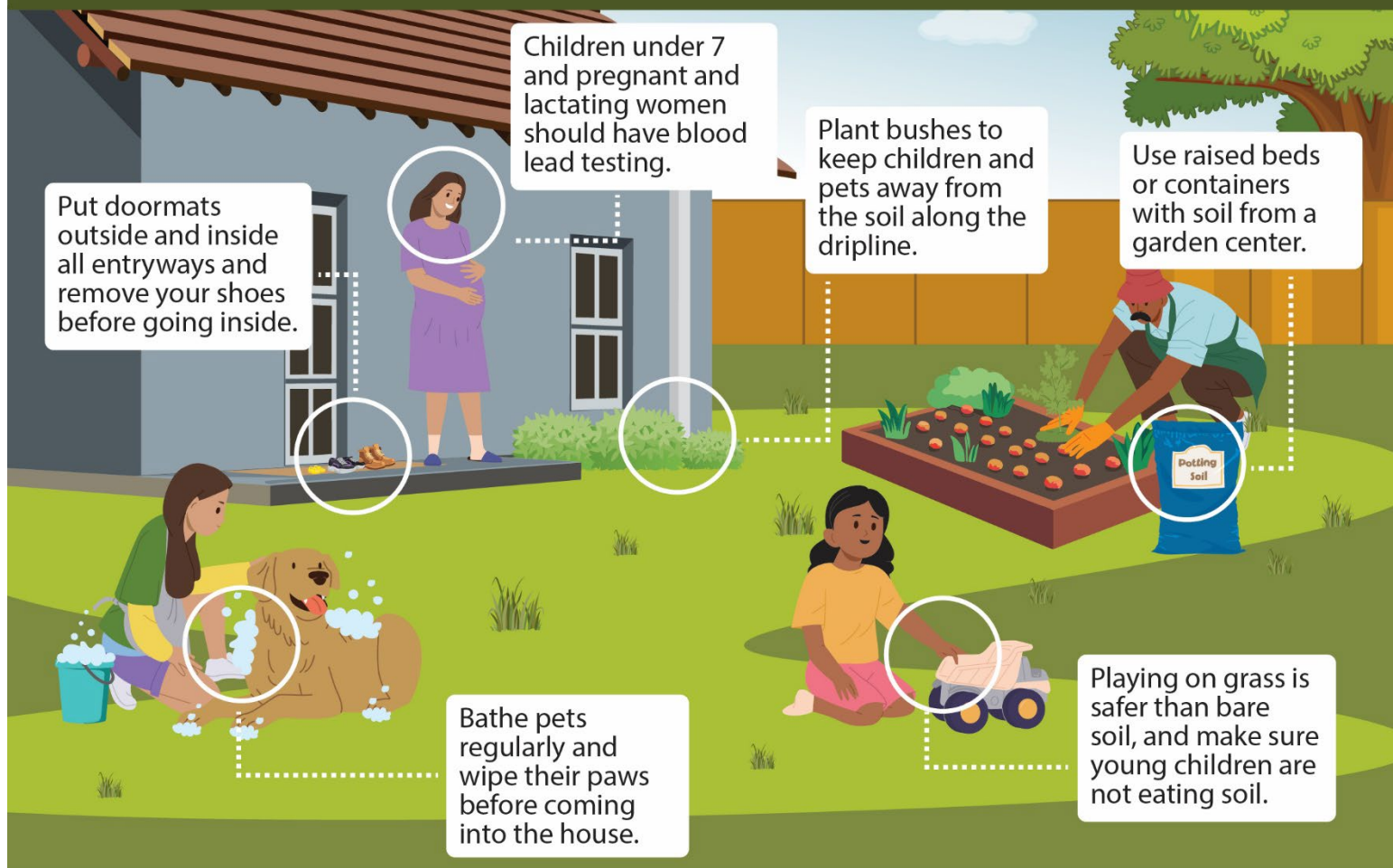
Lead Can Cause Negative Health Effects

- Lead can be **toxic to humans and animals** and affect almost every organ and system in your body.
- **Children under 7 years old** absorb lead more easily than adults and are sensitive to its damaging effects.
- **Even a small amount of lead exposure can have an impact.**

How Can I Be Exposed to Lead?



What Can I Do to Reduce Exposure?



More Steps to Stay Healthy and Prevent Lead Exposures



Have children under 7 tested for lead exposure annually. Pregnant and lactating women should also get tested.



Request lead testing at your property.



Wash hands before meals, after handling soil and after playing outside.



Eat nutritious meals high in iron and calcium.

Contact

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For more information,
please visit:

www.epa.gov/lead

www.epa.gov/superfund/updated-soil-lead-guidance-cercla-sites-and-rcra-corrective-action-facilities

www.cdc.gov/TSP/ToxFAQs/ToxFAQsDetails.aspx?faqid=93&toxid=22