



**For immediate release  
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**Contact: Tammy Talton  
Tel: 203-332-7977  
Email: tammy@bntweb.org**

[Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust doing its part to raise lead awareness during National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week \(NLPPW\)](#)

Nearly a quarter of a million children living in the United States have blood lead levels high enough to cause significant damage to their health, estimates the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), based on data from a 2003–2004 national survey. Major sources of lead exposure among U.S. children are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust found in deteriorating buildings.

Despite the continued presence of lead in the environment, lead poisoning is entirely preventable. By partnering with communities and empowering people to take control of their physical environments and personal health, BNT's Healthy Homes Initiative works to transform toxic spaces into healthy homes.

To increase awareness of the consequences of lead poisoning among parents and pregnant women who live in homes built before 1978, Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust Lead Elimination Action Program (LEAP), The City of Bridgeport Lead Free Families Program (BLFF), City of Bridgeport Health Department Lead Prevention Program and the Stratford Health Department along with CDC, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, is participating in **National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (NLPPW) October 24–30th**.

This year's NLPPW theme, "**Lead-Free Kids for a Healthy Future**," underscores the importance of testing your home, testing your child, and learning how to prevent lead poisoning's serious health effects.

In observance of NLPPW, events such as state proclamations, free screenings, lead-awareness community events, and educational campaigns will be conducted nationwide.

- **10/25/10 - Burroughs-Saden Memorial Main Library: Lead Awareness from 6pm-8pm**
- **10/26/10 – Stratford Library: Healthy Homes Fair from 11am-6pm**
- **10/27/10 – Burroughs-Saden Memorial Library: Halloween Parade, Pirate show, Dusty the Dog Lead presentation, Lead Awareness Outreach and Education**



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- **10/28/10 – Optimus Health Care (East Main St.): Lead Awareness presentation, storybook reading, Dusty the Dog Lead presentation**

Parents can reduce a child's exposure to lead in many ways. Here are some simple things you can do to help protect your family:

- **Get your Home Tested. Before you buy an older home, ask for a lead inspection.**
- **Get your Child Tested. Even if your young children seem healthy, ask your doctor to test them for lead.**
- **Get the Facts! Your local health department can provide you with helpful information about preventing childhood lead poisoning. Contact them at Bridgeport Health Department at (203) 576-8419 or Stratford Health Department at (203) 385-4058.**
- **For more information, contact Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust LEAP Program. Contact them at (203) 332-7977 or visit our website at [bntweb.org](http://bntweb.org) or call 1-800-424-LEAD.**