**SAMPLE NEWSLETTER/NEWSPAPER ARTICLE – more than 250 words**

**LEAD-FREE KIDS FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE—NATIONAL LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK 2017**

In (health department jurisdiction) in 2016, more than (number of children with BLL of 5 mcg/dL and above from the [Wisconsin 2016 Annual Blood Lead Testing Data Report](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p01202-2017.pdf)) children, about (data visualization ratio, e.g., “one in ten children tested”), have had elevated blood lead levels that may cause significant damage to their health. These children may develop behavior and learning problems such as hyperactivity, developmental delays, hearing problems, and aggressive patterns of behavior.

Major sources of lead exposure include lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust in deteriorating buildings and homes built before 1978. Despite the continued presence of lead in the environment, lead poisoning is entirely preventable. Stopping a child’s exposure to lead from paint, house dust, or any other source is the best way to prevent the harmful effects of lead.

Particularly important is that (percent of housing stock in health department jurisdiction built prior to 1978 from [American FactFinder](http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml)) % of homes in (health department jurisdiction) were built prior to 1978, or (data visualization ratio such as “one in six homes”). “If your home was built before 1978, there is a good chance it has lead-based paint,” says (local health official name), health officer for (health department jurisdiction). “Assume there is lead present and act accordingly—hire a certified lead-safe renovation contractor to make any repairs to painted surfaces.”

(Health department jurisdiction) is participating in National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, October 22-28, and joins the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in encouraging parents to learn more about how to prevent lead poisoning.

This year's 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.

Established in 1999 by the U.S. Senate, National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (NLPPPW) occurs every year during the last week in October. For more information about NLPPW activities in your area, contact (health department name, phone number, webpage, Facebook page, etc.). **[Include this sentence if you are doing activities locally to observe CLPP Week. If not, change it to** “For more information about preventing lead poisoning, contact …”**]**