The Montachusett Regional Lead Paint Hazard Control Program is a partnership between the City of Fitchburg, NewVue Communities, Montachusett Opportunity Council, Montachusett Public Health Network, and the participating communities of Gardner, Clinton, and Athol. Grants will be provided to low and moderate income owner-occupants and investors who rent to low income tenants in these four communities.

ABOUT LEAD-BASED PAINT

Lead is a highly toxic metal that may cause a range of health problems, especially in young children. When lead is absorbed into the body, it can cause damage to the brain and other vital organs, like the kidneys, nerves and blood.

Lead may also cause behavioral problems, learning disabilities, seizures, and in extreme cases, death. Some symptoms of lead poisoning may include headaches, stomachaches, nausea, tiredness and irritability. Children who are lead poisoned may show no symptoms.

Both inside and outside the home, deteriorated lead-paint mixes with household dust and soil and becomes tracked in. Children may become lead poisoned by:

- Putting their hands or other lead-contaminated objects into their mouths.
- Eating paint chips found in homes with peeling or flaking lead-based paint.
- Playing in lead-contaminated soil.

Those most likely at risk are children 6 years and younger, pregnant women and unborn child, people living in houses that are being renovated, also renovators themselves are at risk.
More Information

- Average grant size permitted is $10,000 per unit.
- Inspectors, bidding assistance, and project oversight will be provided.
- **Investors:** Units must remain available to low income families for a minimum of three years.
- Low-interest loans may be available to owner-occupants to help with additional costs, if supplemental funding is available.
- Investor owners will be required to provide 15% match.

Basic Eligibility

- Owner-occupants and investors of single or multi-family homes located in the towns of Fitchburg, Gardner, Clinton, and Athol.
- Tenant/Owner must meet income guidelines and other requirements.
- A child ages six and under must be living at or visiting more than six hours per week.

Refer to the chart below for income limits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>Owner-Occupant (Tenant’s Income)</th>
<th>Investor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Person</td>
<td>$46,000</td>
<td>$29,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 People</td>
<td>$52,600</td>
<td>$33,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 People</td>
<td>$59,150</td>
<td>$37,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 People</td>
<td>$65,700</td>
<td>$41,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 People</td>
<td>$71,000</td>
<td>$44,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 People</td>
<td>$76,250</td>
<td>$48,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 People</td>
<td>$81,500</td>
<td>$51,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 People</td>
<td>$86,750</td>
<td>$54,950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Income limits do change.*

For the most current Income Limits. Please see:
https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html

Renters | Owners | Investors

Look Out for Lead!

Lead dust and lead paint in old homes can poison children. When old paint peels and cracks, it makes lead dust. Lead dust can also come from opening and closing old windows. The Lead Law protects families with children under six years old who live in a home built before 1978. If there is lead paint in the home, the owner must use licensed professionals to make it safe.

First priority will be given to housing units in which a child under six with lead poisoning or elevated lead blood levels lives or visits. Every child in Massachusetts must be tested for lead between the ages of 9 and 12 months, at 2, 3, and 4 if you live in a high risk community. Has your child been tested? If not, talk to your doctor.

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Note:

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