

Proclamation



LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK

OCTOBER 23 - 29, 2022

WHEREAS, lead exposure is preventable and the most important step parents, healthcare providers, and others can take is to identify risks and prevent exposure; and;

WHEREAS, childhood exposure to lead can cause lower IQ; decreased ability to pay attention; underperformance in school; slowed growth and development; learning and behavior problems; and hearing and speech problems; and

WHEREAS, lead can pass from a parent to their unborn baby, which can increase the risk for miscarriage; cause the baby to be born too early or too small; hurt the baby's brain, kidneys, and nervous system; and cause the baby to have learning or behavior problems; and

WHEREAS, a lactating person with previous exposure to lead can pass lead to a child through breastmilk; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy and Environment's Lead Safe and Healthy Homes Branch facilitates a program dedicated to the eradication of childhood lead poisoning through clinical case management, education and home visiting; and

WHEREAS, National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week brings together community stakeholders to raise awareness of lead poisoning; explain what parents can do to protect children from lead exposure; and share available guides to identify sources of lead, remove lead-based paint hazards, and replace lead service pipes:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC, do hereby proclaim October 23 - 29, 2022 in Washington, DC as "**LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK**" and do commend this observance to all Washingtonians.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Muriel Bowser". The signature is written over a horizontal line.