



WORCESTER ROOTS RECOMMENDATION SHEET

0-400 PPM (Parts Per Million) estimated TOTAL lead: BELOW EPA DANGER LEVEL

- Area tested does not show major risk for play or garden areas.
- At levels of 300 and above, we still advise using *compost amendment* and/or *phytoremediation* (see below).

400-2000 PPM estimated TOTAL lead: MODERATE (dangerous)

- Poses a risk of lead poisoning for walkways, planting or play areas.
- Recommended options:
 - Build Raised Garden Beds and/or use compost amendment.
 - Phytoremediation (see below).
 - Cover with:
 - woodchips, compost, landscaping fabric, plastic, stepping stones, etc.

2000+ PPM estimated TOTAL lead: HIGH (very dangerous)

- Unsafe to plant or play in.
- Get children who have come in contact with infected area tested.
- Block off or cover area.
- Recommended options:
 - Coverings (see above).
 - Phytoremediation in some cases (see below).
 - Excavation with proper safety precautions.



Phytoremediation

- Certain types of plants As plants grow, they absorb lead from soil into their roots, stems, and leaves. Some can be used to remove lead from soil. Other planting techniques can stabilize lead in soil.
- Plants must be disposed of safely.
- Contact Worcester Roots for detailed phytoremediation procedures.

Compost Amendment

- Add 6-12 inches compost (preferably high in phosphorus) to your garden to dilute and bind up the lead.
- You can get free compost at Worcester's Residential Drop-Off Center on 115 Ballard Street. Worcester DPW: (508) 929-1300.

Excavation

- This means actually removing the soil.
 - Using professional toxic waste removal companies can be very expensive.
 - Small amounts can be disposed of in yellow bags with a residential exemption.
- Soon, the Toxic Soil Busters may be able to offer a much more affordable excavation service, contact us for more information.

Tel: 508-736-5822 ~ Email: Info@WorcesterRoots.org ~ Address: 4 King St, Worcester, MA 01610