

# NEWS RELEASE

**OCTOBER 22, 2007**

Salt Lake County Lead Safe Housing Program  
2001 S. State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84190  
Ph: (801) 468-2077, Fax: (801) 468-3684, [sfox@slco.org](mailto:sfox@slco.org)

For Immediate Release

## **Calendar Item and Photo/Video Opportunity**

### **Mayor Peter Corroon, Lead Safe Housing Program Announce Lead Safe Testing Day October 25, 2007**

**(Salt Lake County)** In connection with National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, Oct 21 – 27, Salt Lake County Mayor Corroon and the Lead Safe Housing Program are inviting the public and media to the first “Lead Safe Testing Day” on October 25, 2007 from 10 am to 7 pm at the County Government Center 2001 South State Street, South Building Atrium.

The public is invited to bring their toys, jewelry, pottery, clothing, and furniture to be tested for lead based contaminants. Information on the harmful effects of lead, where lead is found and how to protect your family from lead poisoning will be available.

Representatives from the Lead Safe Housing Program will be available to take applications for those qualifying households that need lead abatement. Once qualified, home owners may receive free services, which includes lead testing of the home, blood testing for children under the age of 6, window replacement, and/or repainting.

Mayor Peter Corroon will kick off the event activities and provide additional information on HUD grant dollars available to home and rental property owners at a **10 a.m. news conference** at the Government Center South Building October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Childhood lead poisoning is considered the most preventable environmental disease of young children but almost 1 million children in the United States have lead levels in their blood that are high enough to cause irreversible damage to their health. The national goal is to eliminate childhood lead poisoning in the United States by 2010.

Most problems come when lead based paint is disturbed in homes (or other buildings) built before 1978. Dust from disturbed paint settles on toys, windowsills, and floors and can be swallowed by young children. Lead poisoned children often suffer from learning disabilities, brain and central nervous system damage, and other physical effects.