

## DID YOU KNOW? VEGETABLE GARDENS ARE PRIORITIZED FOR SOIL MANAGEMENT

Spring is a great time to test your garden soil! The service is completely FREE.

Sign up at [thep.ca](http://thep.ca) for soil testing.

The first 50 residents to sign up in 2026 will receive a FREE pack of garden seeds!

### Already had your soil tested?

Contact THEP with any questions you have about gardening in the Trail Area.

For more information, visit [thep.ca](http://thep.ca) or call 250-368-3256.

## DID YOU KNOW?

# 90%

of pre-1990 homes tested in the Trail area have exterior paint containing lead that is flaking or chipping. This paint can be an exposure source for young children and contribute to lead in soil in your yard.

Learn about paint testing when you sign up for soil testing.

## Monitoring air quality is one of the most important tools for protecting community health in the Trail area.

THEP tracks levels of lead (Pb) and sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) at air monitoring stations throughout the region.

For the latest air quality data, visit [thep.ca/air](http://thep.ca/air)

## TIPS!

## Using Leaf Blowers Safely This Spring

Leaf blowers stir up dust into the air that can settle in areas where children play or gardens grow. Dust is not healthy to ingest, and may contain lead.

If possible, wet the area slightly before using a blower to reduce dust.

To clean hard surfaces, consider using a vacuum with HEPA filter, or a hose/pressure washer rather than leaf blowing or dry sweeping.

For landscaped areas, consider using a rake instead

Remove shoes before entering the home after yard work.

Blow debris away from vegetable gardens, play areas, and areas where children spend time.

Avoid using leaf blowers near bare soil, especially in areas where children play.

For more tips on reducing indoor dust levels, visit [thep.ca](http://thep.ca)



# LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD: THEP'S 2025 PROGRESS



## HEALTH

82

HEALTHY FAMILY VISITS  
WERE COMPLETED

75%

PARTICIPATION RATE  
AT CHILDREN'S BLOOD  
LEAD CLINICS

## SOIL

90

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES HAD  
RISK-BASED SOIL MANAGEMENT  
COMPLETED

31

DIFFICULT-TO-ACCESS PROPERTIES  
RECEIVED SOIL MANAGEMENT

## AIR QUALITY

3

NEW COMMUNITY AIR MONITORS  
WERE PROPOSED



The Trail Area Health & Environment Program (THEP) works year-round to reduce environmental exposures and improve health outcomes for Trail area families. Here's a snapshot of key accomplishments in our six program areas in 2025.



## BUILT ENVIRONMENTS

# 57

HEALTHY HOME VISITS WERE COMPLETED



## INTEGRATION, UNDERSTANDING & CREATING VALUE TOGETHER

# 3

KNOWLEDGE SHARING & LEARNING TRAIL GROUP MEETINGS

# 210

PROPERTIES TESTED HAD AT LEAST ONE DETECTION OF LEAD IN EXTERIOR PAINT

## COMMUNITY CONNECTEDNESS & LEADERSHIP

# 54

LEAD SAFE RENOVATION REQUESTS AND FOLLOW UPS

# 58

IN-PERSON EVENTS, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS THEP TEAM MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN

# 11

REGULAR PARTICIPANTS FROM 3 COUNTRIES ACTIVE IN COP (COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE)

# KOOTENAY-COLUMBIA CCRR TOY LENDING LIBRARY: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE PARENTING

The CCRR is home to an Early Years Lending Library. The Lending library has an array of developmentally appropriate toys, activities, and resources for children 0-6 years of age that foster growth in all areas of development. We also offer a variety of learning resources for both parents and care providers as well.

## Impacts of Lending Libraries include:

- Waste Reduction
- Promotion of both Environmental and Financial Sustainability
- Children learning the value of sharing
- Being a part of community



For more information, email us at [CCRR@trailfair.ca](mailto:CCRR@trailfair.ca)



# TEDDY BEAR PICNIC GYRO PARK

Join us for a day filled with children's activities, early years resources, prizes, fun and more, with your local early years service providers! Bring your picnic blankets, chairs and snacks!

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026**  
10:00AM - 12:00PM  
AT GYRO PARK IN TRAIL



For more information contact Sophie at: [ssstreleoff@trailfair.ca](mailto:ssstreleoff@trailfair.ca)

## TEAM PROFILE: MEET DAVE BELL



Dave Bell grew up in Tadanac, the neighbourhood adjacent to the smelter. After years of studying and working elsewhere, Dave returned to Trail to work in the Environment department at Teck Trail Operations. He is also a member of THEP's program team. We caught up with Dave to learn more about what drew him back to Trail and his current focus.

### Q: WHAT DREW YOU BACK TO TRAIL AFTER SPENDING TIME AWAY?

I loved growing up in Trail and always thought it would be a great place to live and raise my own family. A great job opportunity came up at Teck, and we decided to make the move from Vancouver.

### Q: WHAT WAS IT LIKE GROWING UP IN TADANAC, AND HOW HAS IT CHANGED OVER TIME?

Tadanac is an amazing place to be a kid - lots of green space and the freedom to roam in a quiet compact neighbourhood. Some of my fondest memories are street hockey games with kids of all ages. I don't think it's changed much since I left in the late 1990s, except that you can't walk through Teck to get downtown anymore!



### Q: WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS YEAR?

I'm excited to see an approved Wide Area Remediation Plan (WARP) in 2026. This is a culmination of decades of work and will formalize Teck and THEP's commitments to improving environmental conditions impacted by historical aerial emissions.

## Are You Planning a Renovation?

Older homes (pre-1990) often have lead in paint and dust and require special precautions during renovations. Make sure you are lead-safe! THEP offers free home visits to expecting parents and supplies for lead safe renovation.

**Sign up for a free visit or supplies at [thep.ca](http://thep.ca).**

For more information contact the Trail Area Health & Environment Program Community Program Office

1319 Bay Avenue, Trail, BC V1R 4A7

250.368.3256

[programs@thep.ca](mailto:programs@thep.ca)

[thep.ca](http://thep.ca)