

Children's Lead Testing Clinics

September 15, 23, 28

9:00AM-3:00PM

September 16, 21, 29

11:30AM-5:30PM

WHO CAN ATTEND?

Children 6-36 months who spend the majority of their day in Trail, Casino, Oasis, Rivervale, Waneta or Warfield.

Children 6-60 months who recently moved to the area, have never been tested, or live in a recently renovated home in the Lower Columbia.



Entry to win a Ferraro Foods gift card for every child!

Your participation matters.

Every test helps THEP better support families, track progress, and understand where continued attention is needed.

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT OR FOR MORE INFORMATION:

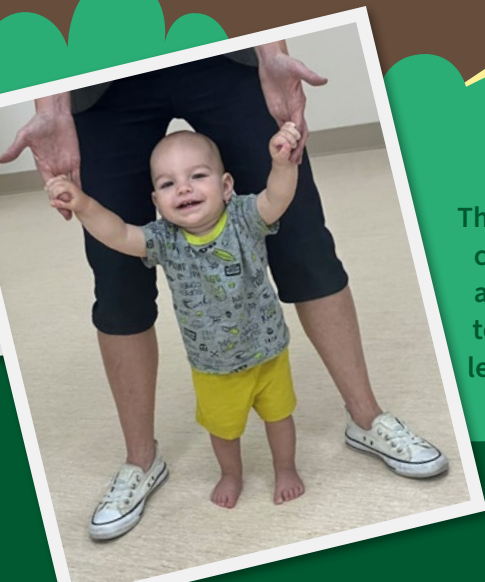
Call or text 250-231-5945

Kiro Wellness Centre 1500 Columbia Ave.

DID YOU KNOW?

Trail children's blood lead levels have dropped dramatically over 30 years.

The long-term downward trend continues to highlight the community's progress in managing lead exposure in an area with an operating lead smelter. Thanks to ongoing testing, prevention, and collaboration, children's blood lead levels in Trail have declined dramatically over time.



THEP supports the community of Trail and nearby areas to live, work and play in an area influenced by smelter air emissions.

THEP THROUGH THE YEARS: TRACKING OUR PROGRESS



For more than 25 years, THEP partners have worked to reduce exposure to lead and improve health outcomes for Trail area families. Here's a look at how far the community has come since different programs started.

HEALTH

963

HEALTHY HOMES VISITS
COMPLETED

75%

PARTICIPATION RATE
AT CHILDREN'S BLOOD
LEAD CLINIC IN 2025

SOIL MANAGEMENT

2,651

PROPERTIES HAVE RECEIVED
YARD OR VEGETABLE GARDEN
SOIL ASSESSMENT

691

PROPERTIES HAVE RECEIVED
FULL SOIL REPLACEMENT

54

PROPERTIES HAVE RECEIVED
PARTIAL SOIL REPLACEMENT

189

PROPERTIES HAVE RECEIVED
STAND ALONE VEGETABLE
GARDEN REPLACEMENTS

PAINT

753

PROPERTIES HAVE BEEN TESTED
FOR LEAD IN EXTERIOR PAINT

LEAD-SAFE RENOVATION SUPPORT

1,262

LSR REQUESTS HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED

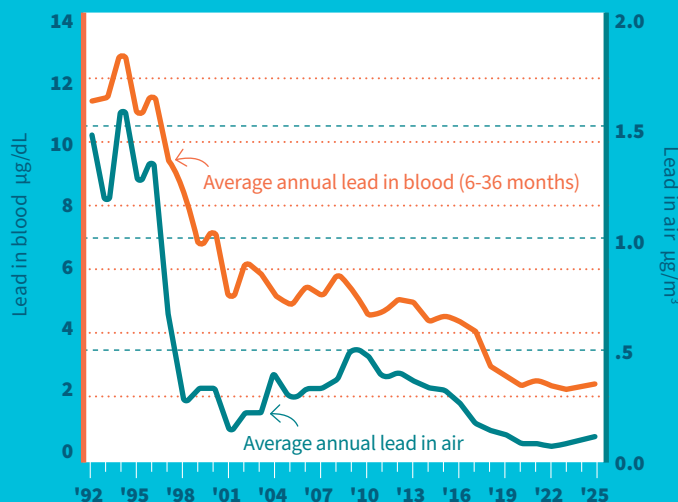


Long term improvements

Blood lead levels continue to decline from 13.5 µg/dL in 1989 to 2.3 in 2025.

Lead in community air has a similar downward trend. Since 2020, lead in community air measures consistently below the U.S. EPA standard.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR LEAD IN COMMUNITY AIR
AND CHILDREN'S BLOOD (1992-2025, TRAIL, B.C.)



CURIOUS ABOUT CURRENT SO₂ (SULPHUR DIOXIDE) CONDITIONS?

Real-time data is available online at:



Learn more with THEP's FAQs at:
thep.ca/so2



WELCOMING NEW VOICES: KS&L TRAIL GROUP ONBOARDING

The City of Trail and Teck welcomed new members to the Knowledge Sharing & Learning (KS&L) Trail Group with an onboarding tour showcasing THEP's work across the community—from soil management and community air monitoring to fugitive dust reduction at Teck. The group meets annually to build a shared understanding of the people, organizations and work supporting human health and well-being in a community influenced by smelter air emissions. Members include representatives from the B.C. Ministry of Environment and Parks, B.C. Ministry of Health, Interior Health, Teck Trail Operations and the City of Trail.

THEP regularly shares lessons and successes from Trail with interested organizations across B.C. and beyond. Find more stories on the Learning Together page at thep.ca/learning-together



MEET MICHELLE LAURIE, THE LEAD FACILITATOR

Collaboration keeps Trail's community program moving forward – and leading on a global stage.

Can you tell us a little about your role with the Program and Committee?

I like to think of myself as **the glue and the grease!** I help keep our partners - City of Trail, Interior Health, Teck, and the BC Ministry of Environment & Parks - pulling in the same direction, making sure the work keeps moving forward.

At the community level, it's all about supporting our team on the ground. You'll see us out in the community every day at local markets, daycares, and in people's yards - managing soil, testing paint, and sharing simple ways people can reduce dust (which may contain lead).

For families who are new to the area, how would you describe what THEP does, and why it matters?

Lead can show up in several ways around a home—whether in older paint, yard soil, or household dust. But the main message we want families to hear is that **there are many actions you can take, and you don't have to do it alone.**

THEP exists to make that easy through free testing, practical advice, and hands-on support for your home and yard.

You've been with THEP since 2018. What keeps you inspired by this work?

Honestly, it's the unwavering commitment of everyone involved. THEP has been convening community health work in Trail for over 35 years—bringing together local government, health authorities, industry, and residents who hold each other accountable.

Trail's collaborative model is genuinely world-class. We've even hosted delegations from smelter communities in Australia and Belgium who came to Trail to learn from our approach! At the end of the day, our success comes down to one thing: keeping the community at the center of everything we do.



DID YOU KNOW?

Delegations from Belgium and Australia have visited Trail to learn from our community-centered model.

HAVE YOU NOTICED DIGGING HAPPENING AROUND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD?

THEP supports soil management during property development projects in the Trail Area. Here are recent photos of work that took place at the Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital in Trail for the MRI expansion project.



If you're planning a development project that requires extensive digging, let THEP know so we can ensure soil is managed safely.

From Fresh Soil to Bountiful Harvest

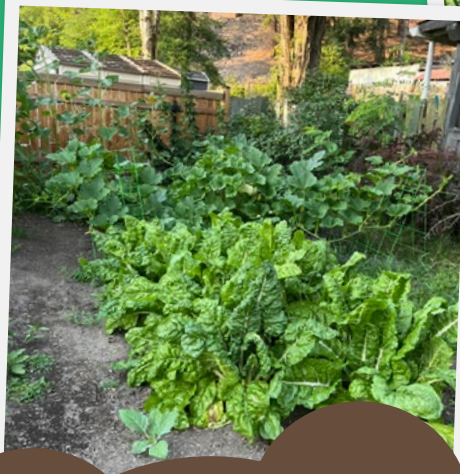
This past spring, longtime Trail resident Deborah Monteith had part of her yard soil replaced for an inground vegetable garden and she is thrilled with the results.

"I had my garden soil replaced early in the season so I was able to prepare the area for planting. I was pleased to see THEP filled the area with good quality top soil. I left the soil for a couple of weeks to let the natural weeds emerge, once those were cleared it was easy to enhance the soil with compost and manure. The result is a very productive garden of corn, carrots, Swiss chard, leeks, tomatoes, peas, cucumbers, and squash! Next year's garden will be even better."

The whole process only took a few days, the crew was a great group and the quality of top soil made it very easy to prepare my garden, the result is a bountiful garden that I can enjoy, admire and get my hands dirty!"

THEP WINS THE GO GREEN AWARD

THEP was honoured with the Go Green Award at the Trail & District Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards 2026 - recognition of the program's ongoing work for a healthier community and environment.



TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

THEP joined families at the annual Teddy Bear Picnic on June 10, 2026, for children's activities, early years resources and community fun.



COMMUNITY MOCK-TALE EVENT

THEP recently brought together community partners who support young children and families for a learning event themed "Community Magic: Better Together." The gathering encouraged conversation, connection and collaboration. If you are an expecting parent, a young family, or someone who works with young families, please connect with THEP.

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

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