## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE





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## County encouraging residents to apply for lead removal program

**SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO**—County Executive Ilene Shapiro is encouraging residents to apply for her office's new Lead Safe Ohio program. The program funds lead removal from homes and is available to income-qualified homeowners living in any Summit County community.

Unlike the County's traditional lead abatement program, Lead Safe Ohio does not require a lead test and can be used in homes with or without children. Eligible uses of the funds include window and door replacement, siding and sofit enclosure, porch component repairs, leading cleaning and more.

Summit County is one of 53 grantees selected to receive funding to protect families from the dangers of toxic lead. The county's \$2.1 million award comes from the state's new Lead Safe Ohio program, which is allocating a total of \$84 million in federal funding to support lead mitigation and prevention projects in 72 counties.

County Executive Shapiro's Department of Community Development makes homes lead safe throughout the county. Summit County residents can apply for the program at <u>https://co.summitoh.net/pages/Housing-Rehabilitation-Program.html</u>.

"We are working hard to reduce the risk of lead exposure in our youngest residents, and to remove the financial barriers that impede the ability of homeowners to make safety improvements," said County Executive Shapiro. "Families should not have to wonder if the home their children play in, sleep in and grow in is a hazard to long-term development and health."

Residents who rent and are in need to lead abatement should visit <u>https://co.summitoh.net/pages/Lead-Abatement-Program.html</u> for more information.

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