

KABWE LEAD REMEDIATION PROJECT

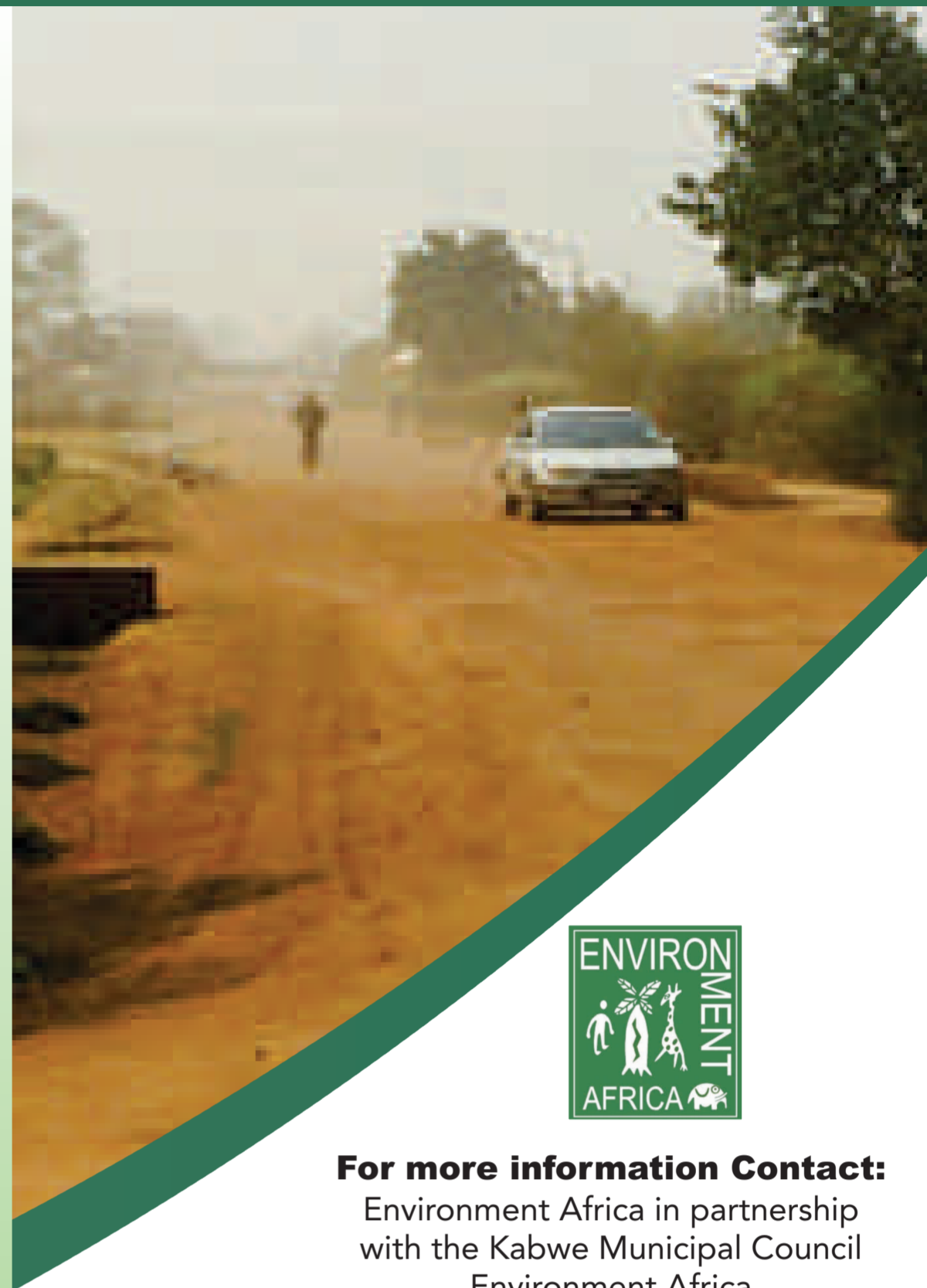
LEAD IS HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH

Lead is a heavy metal with poisonous effects on the human body. Lead enters the body through inhalation and ingestion through the mouth.

Children who are exposed to lead are particularly at risk for adverse health effects due to their smaller body size. Lead exposure inhibits developmental processes. Exposure to very small amounts of lead have been associated with long-term neurological problems and mental impairment of children.

YOU CAN AVOID EXPOSURE TO LEAD BY

- Washing hands and face frequently, especially before eating and bed time
- Keeping your house clean and free of dust - practice wet mopping when cleaning floors and walls
- Practicing wet wiping of furniture, household appliances and washing of dishes
- For people exposed or working in lead contaminated areas removing and washing clothes upon return home, keep work clothes separate from other clothes
- Cleaning vehicle interiors to remove dust
- Avoiding walking barefoot other than in clean areas
- Avoiding creating dust – moisten areas before sweeping
- Covering your yard with unpolluted clean soil cover and maintaining the clean soil cover
- Maintaining grass cover wherever possible
- Thoroughly washing locally grown vegetables
- Clearing drains to prevent flooding with lead polluted water and soil



For more information Contact:

Environment Africa in partnership with the Kabwe Municipal Council
 Environment Africa
 Flat No E3 Moyo Farms, Dallas
 P. O. Box 80800, Kabwe
 0 260 975 379 734
namo@environmentafrica.org
www.environmentafrica.org



Lead poisoning

• No immediate symptoms

• Can lead to learning disabilities, behavioral problems, malformed bones, slow growth

• Very high levels can cause seizures, coma, death

• Children absorb up to 70% of lead, adults about 20%; removed from body extremely slowly; 95% deposited in bones

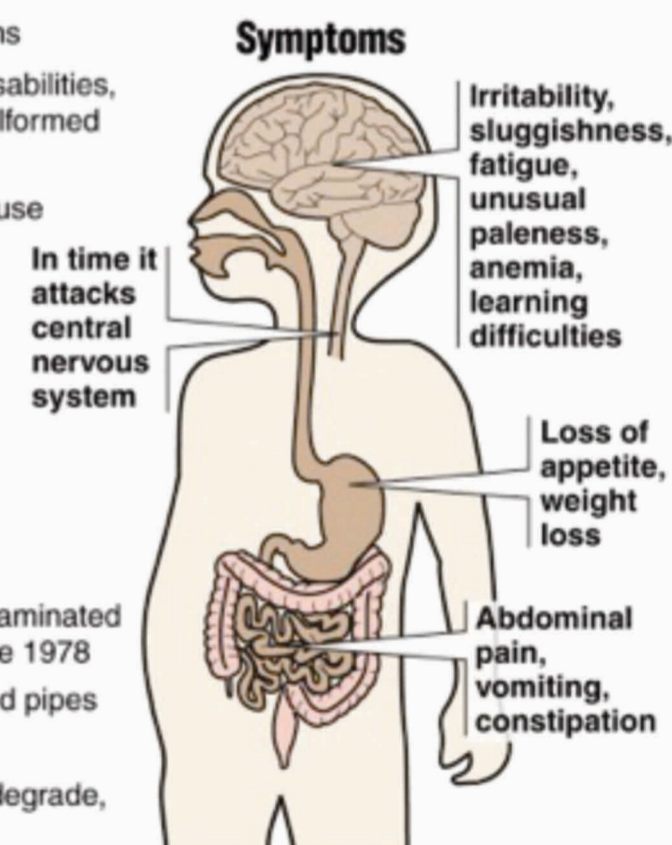
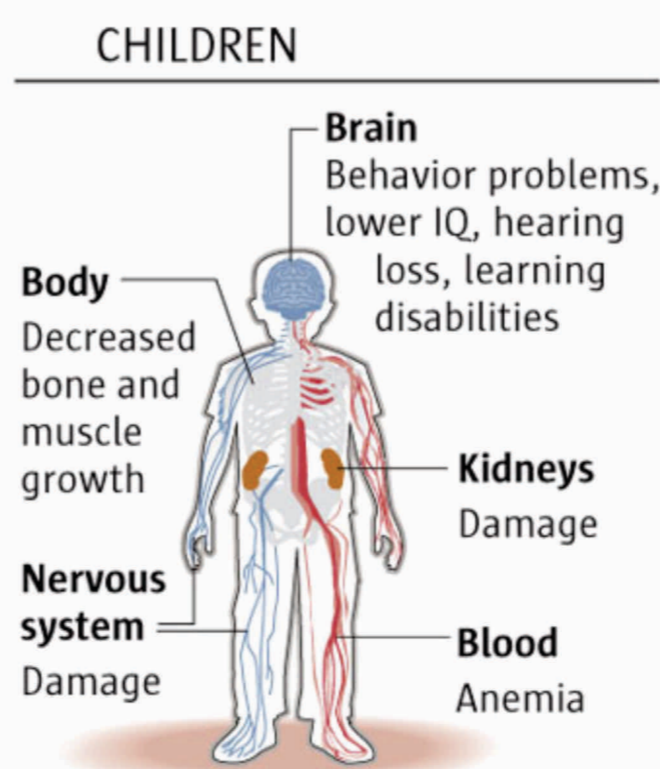
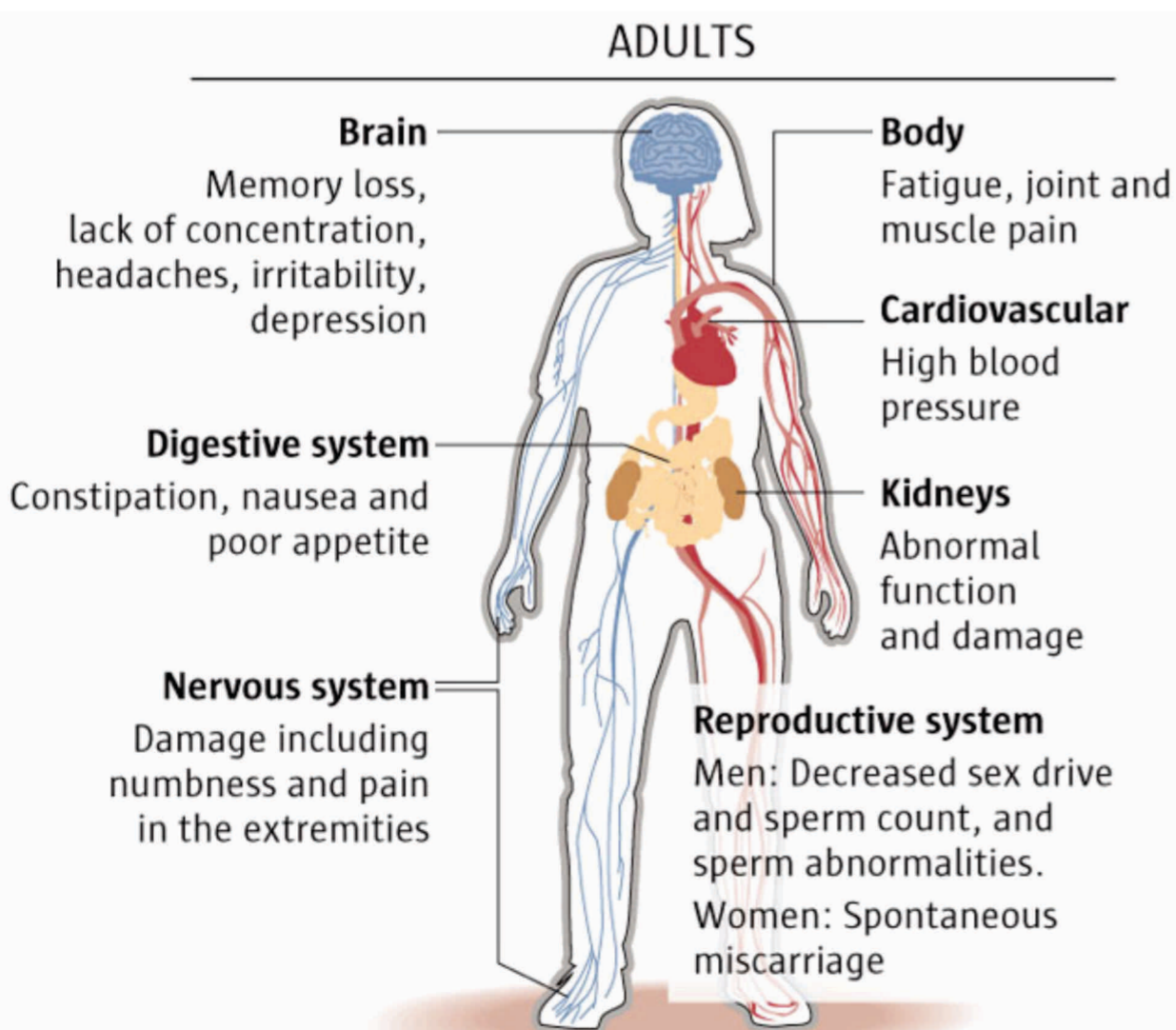
Contaminants

- Lead-based paint, contaminated dust in homes built before 1978
- Drinking water from lead pipes
- Contaminated food
- Soil (lead does not biodegrade, decay)

What parents can do

- Have child screened if there is concern of lead exposure
- Frequently wash child's hands, toys, pacifiers
- Only use cold tap water for drinking, cooking
- Test paint and dust in home if it was built before 1978

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, www.mayoclinic.com Graphic: Staff, Junie Bro-Jorgensen © 2009 MCT



Environment Africa is an environmental nongovernmental organisation working in Zambia advocating for the protection of citizens environmental rights and community participation in environmental decision making and policy formulation processes."

"This document has been produced with support from TDH and Pure Earth. The content of this publication is the sole responsibility of Environment Africa and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of TDH and Pure Earth."