



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
**Department of Toxic Substances Control**

# Media Advisory

**Maziar Movassaghi, Acting Director**

**FOR PLANNING PURPOSES**  
November 10, 2009

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## **California Department of Toxic Substances Control Joins in Bay Area Event to Keep Kids Safe from Lead**

**OAKLAND, Calif.** -This Saturday Cal/EPA's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) will be screening for toxic toys and jewelry in East Oakland, to help protect Bay Area children from the harmful effects of lead as part of the Alameda Health and Fitness Fair. Lead is a toxic metal that can cause serious health problems, even death, especially in young children.

DTSC staff will be spending the day screening hundred of toys and jewelry for high lead levels, free of charge, using its highly specialized equipment, (known as an X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) Analyzer), and its huge mobile science van. Other organizations at the fair will provide free blood lead testing, health check-ups, games and giveaways.

The fair is sponsored by the Alameda County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and Futures Elementary School in East Oakland.

**WHAT:** Free lead screening for toxic toys and jewelry and a free fair to raise awareness of the damaging effects of lead on children's health. Visuals include testing toys and children's jewelry with XRF machinery to measure for high lead levels.

**WHEN:** Saturday, November 14  
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. **(best time for media, 11:30 a.m. – Noon)**

**WHERE:** Futures Elementary School (within the Havenscourt cluster of schools)  
6701 International Blvd., Oakland, CA 94621

**WHO**

- Enrique Baeza, DTSC Supervising Criminal Investigator
- Antonia Becker, DTSC Senior Hazardous Substances Scientist
- Tiffany Chavez, DTSC Criminal Investigator

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FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES: Contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control by phone at (800) 728-6942 or visit [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov). To report illegal handling, discharge, or disposal of hazardous waste, call the Waste Alert Hotline at (800) 698-6942.

***The mission of the Department of Toxic Substances Control is to provide the highest level of safety, and to protect public health and the environment from toxic harm.***