

MOST COMMON home HAZARDS

The Eau Claire City-County Health Department inspects homes to keep you and your family safe. This picture shows **WHERE** common hazards in your home may be found and **WHY** they are dangerous for you and your family's health.

1 STRUCTURE OF HOME

WHERE? Issues with foundation, cracks in walls and ceilings, uneven floors
WHY? Slips, trips, falls, cuts

2 ELECTRICAL DEFICIENCIES

WHERE? Wiring, extension cords, appliance cords or powerstrips
WHY? Injury due to burns or fire

3 NO WORKING SMOKE ALARMS

WHERE? Hallways and rooms where smoke detectors are located
WHY? Injury or death due to fire

4 NO SECOND EXITS

WHERE? Any main room of the house where an exit is easily accessible
WHY? Escape fire

5 NO HAND RAILINGS

WHERE? All stairways, inside and outside the home
WHY? Injuries from slips, trips and falls

6 CLUTTER

WHERE? Hallways, walkways, bedrooms, basements etc
WHY? Injuries from slips, trips and falls

7 DUST & OTHER ALLERGENS

WHERE? Pets, carpet, poorly ventilated bathrooms
WHY? Allergic reactions, lung infections, asthma

8 MOISTURE / WATER LEAKS & MOLD

WHERE? Bathrooms, basements, bedrooms where water may be leaking in
WHY? Lung infections, asthma and bronchitis

9 ASBESTOS

WHERE? Old floor tiles, ceiling tiles, roof shingles, siding, insulation, pipe cement, seams between sheetrock
WHY? Lung or other cancers

10 LEAD

WHERE? *Inside:* paint found on window trim, wood floor, peeling paint on walls, contaminated dust
Outside: paint found on window trim, on siding of homes, in the soil surrounding older homes
WHY? Impact to brain growth and learning

11 CARBON MONOXIDE (INVISIBLE)

WHERE? Faulty furnaces, gas appliances, portable generators
WHY? Headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, death

12 RADON (INVISIBLE)

WHERE? Through floor or drains in basements or lowest room in home without a basement
WHY? Lung Cancer

13 AREAS THAT ATTRACT PESTS

WHERE? Kitchens, garbage cans / dumpsters, outdoor landscapes, cracks or holes that lead to the outdoors
WHY? Contamination, disease, respiratory impacts

