

The background features a soft-focus landscape with a range of mountains in the distance and a willow tree branch with drooping catkins on the right side. The overall color palette is muted, consisting of earthy greens, browns, and greys.

*Fighting lead in the residential  
environment*

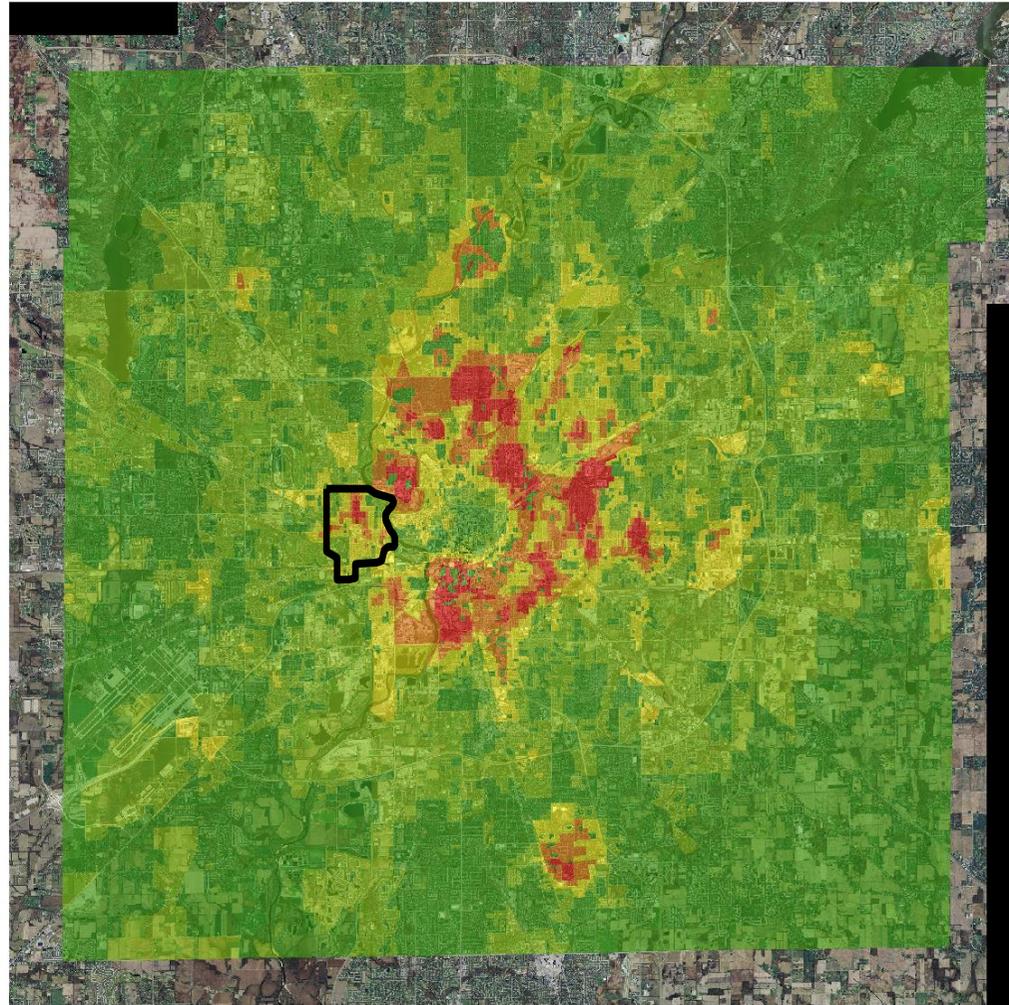
=

**Gabriel Filippelli**

Director, Center for Urban Health

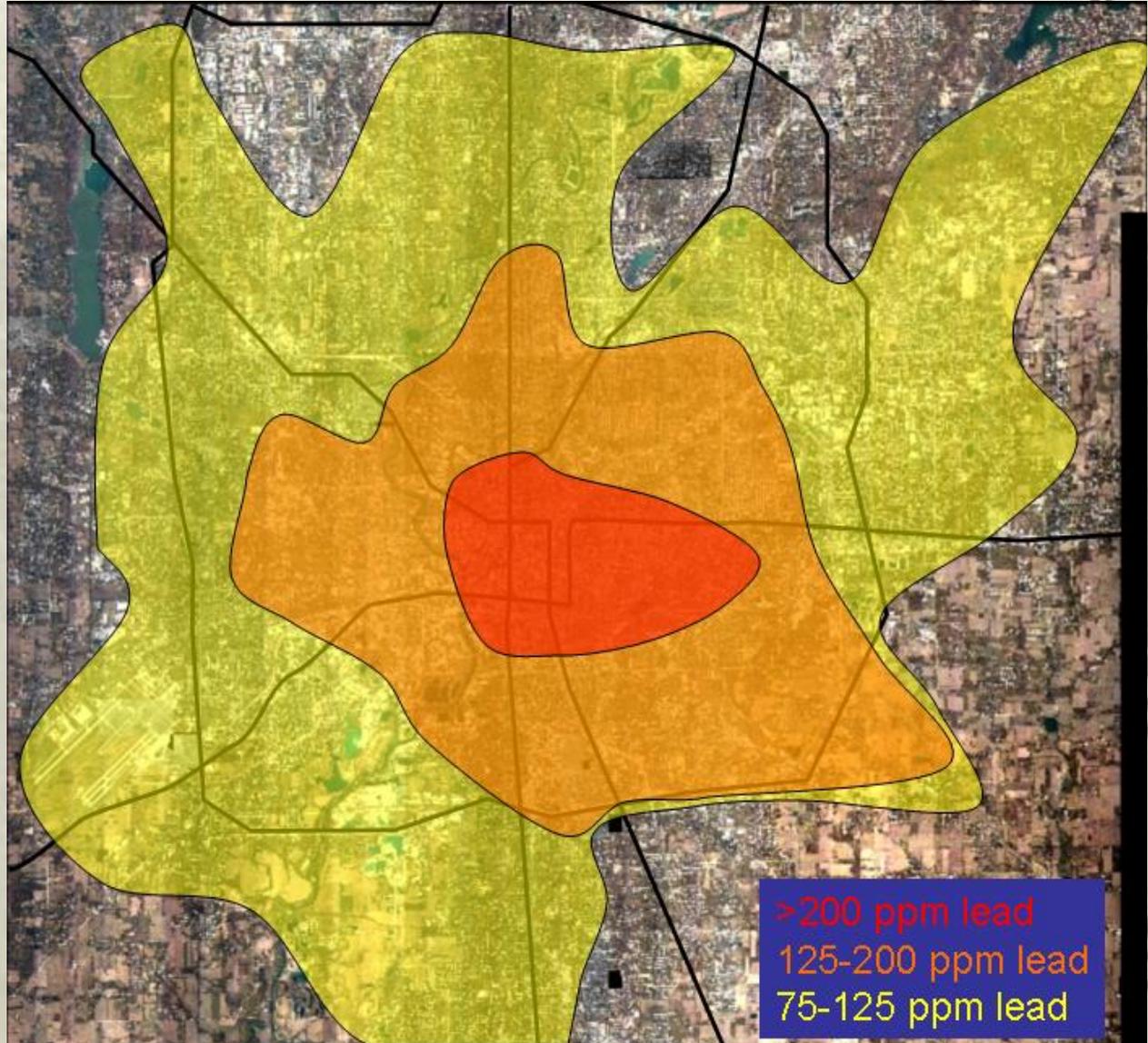
Professor of Earth Sciences and Public Health, IUPUI

# *The problem?*

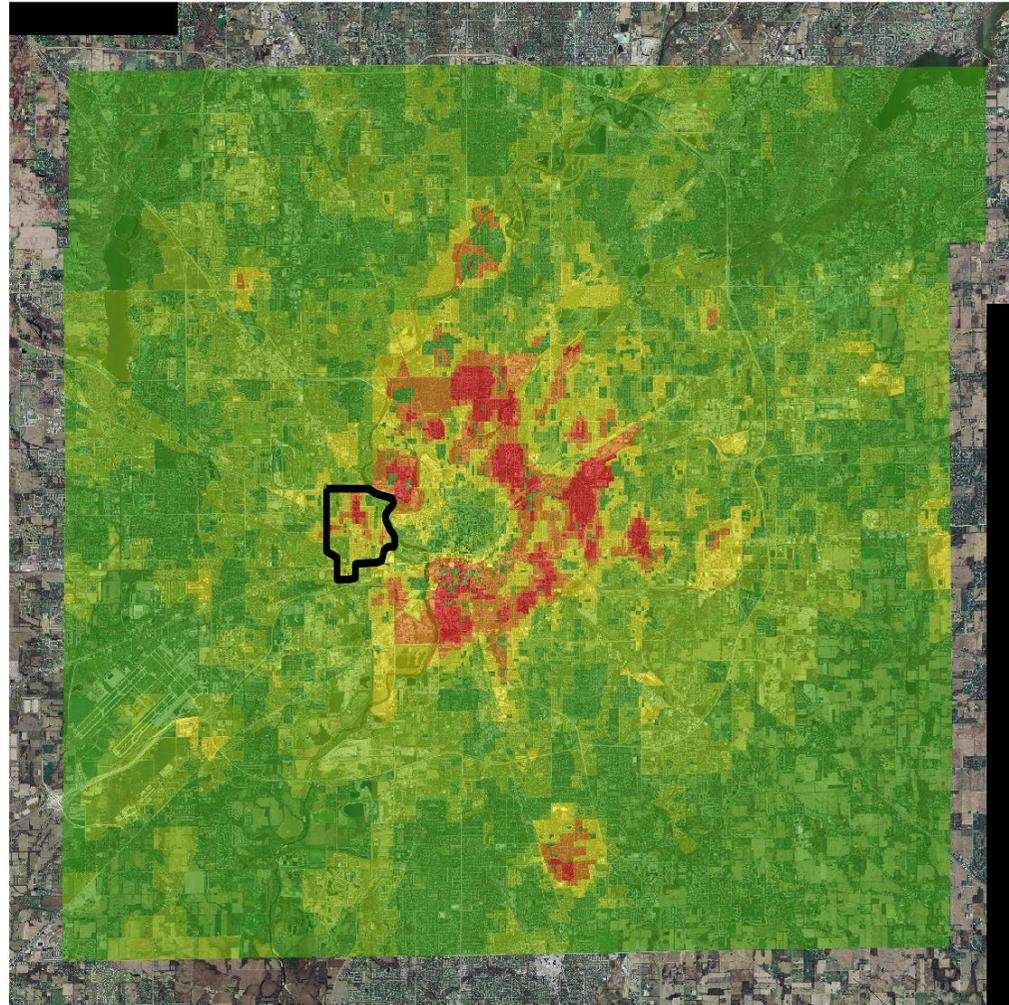


## *Where is lead in Indianapolis?*

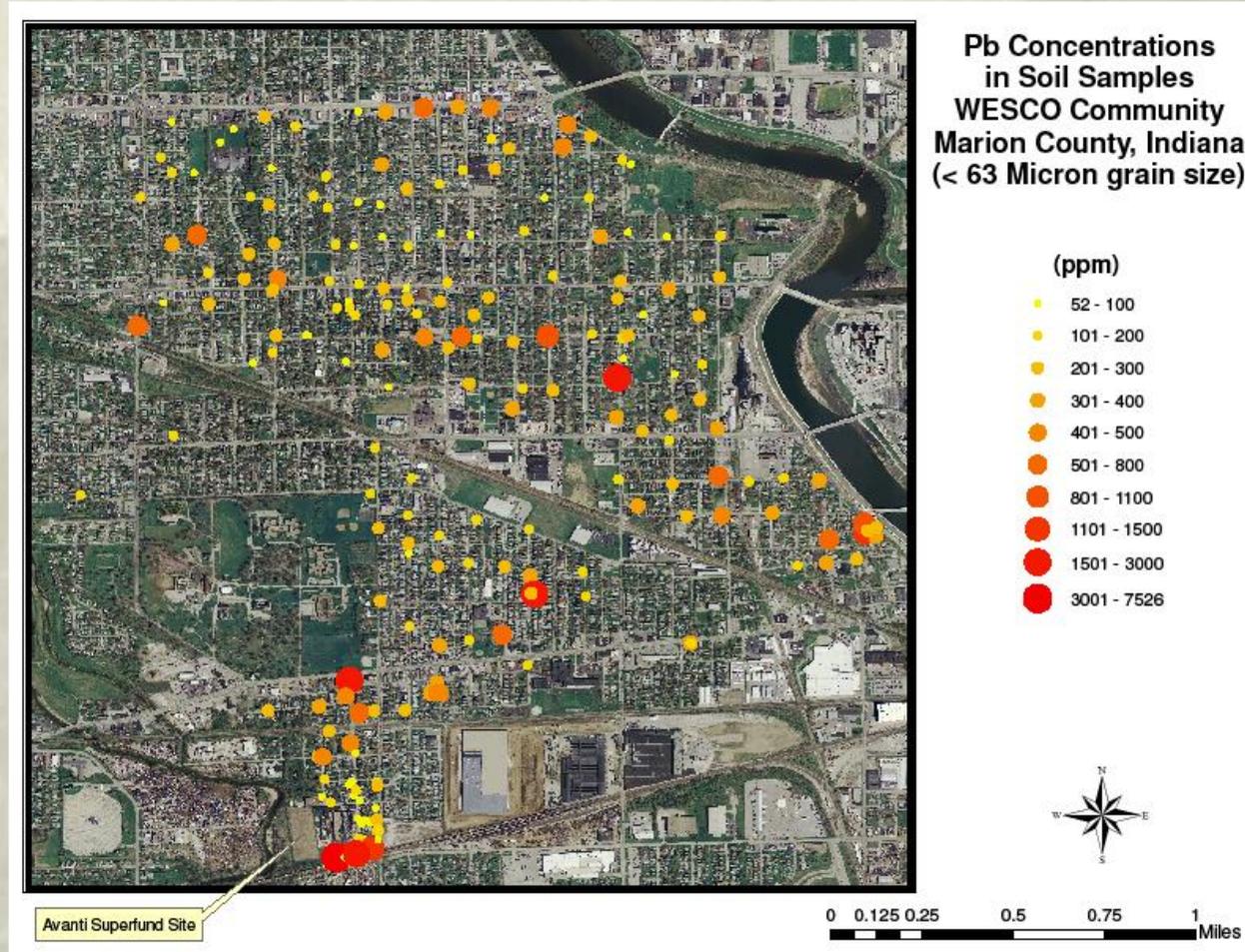
- ❖ Lead now distributed widely in urban cores of cities, including Indianapolis



# *The problem?*



# The cause?



# *Sources*

- ❖ Paint
  - Especially near sills and driplines of older homes
- ❖ Water
- ❖ Soil
  - From paint, gasoline, dust

# *Solutions*

## ❖ Paint

- Indoor...replacement, remediation, wet mopping & dusting

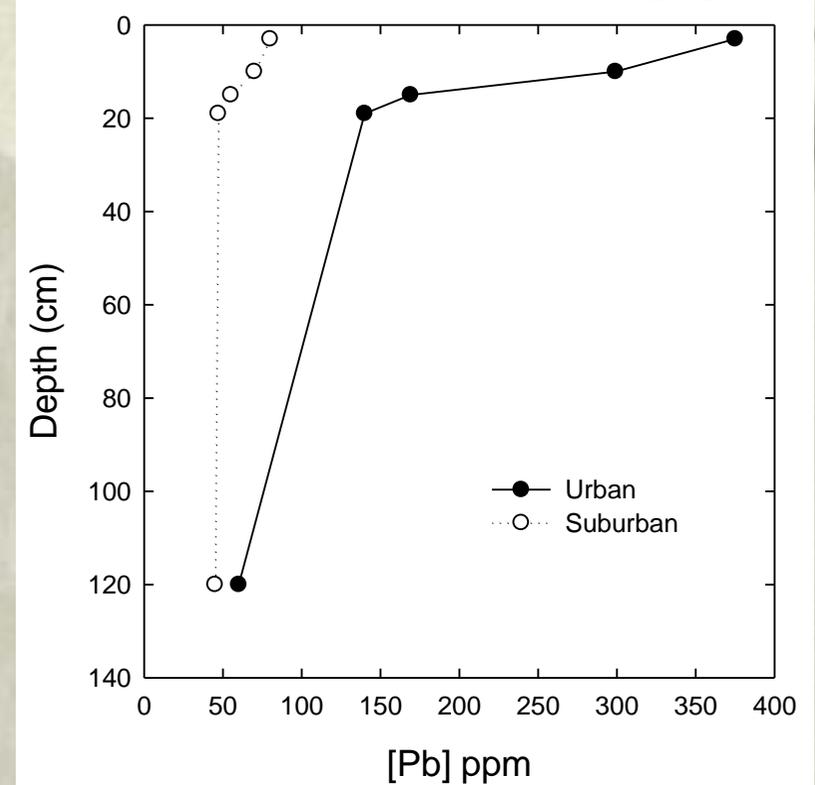
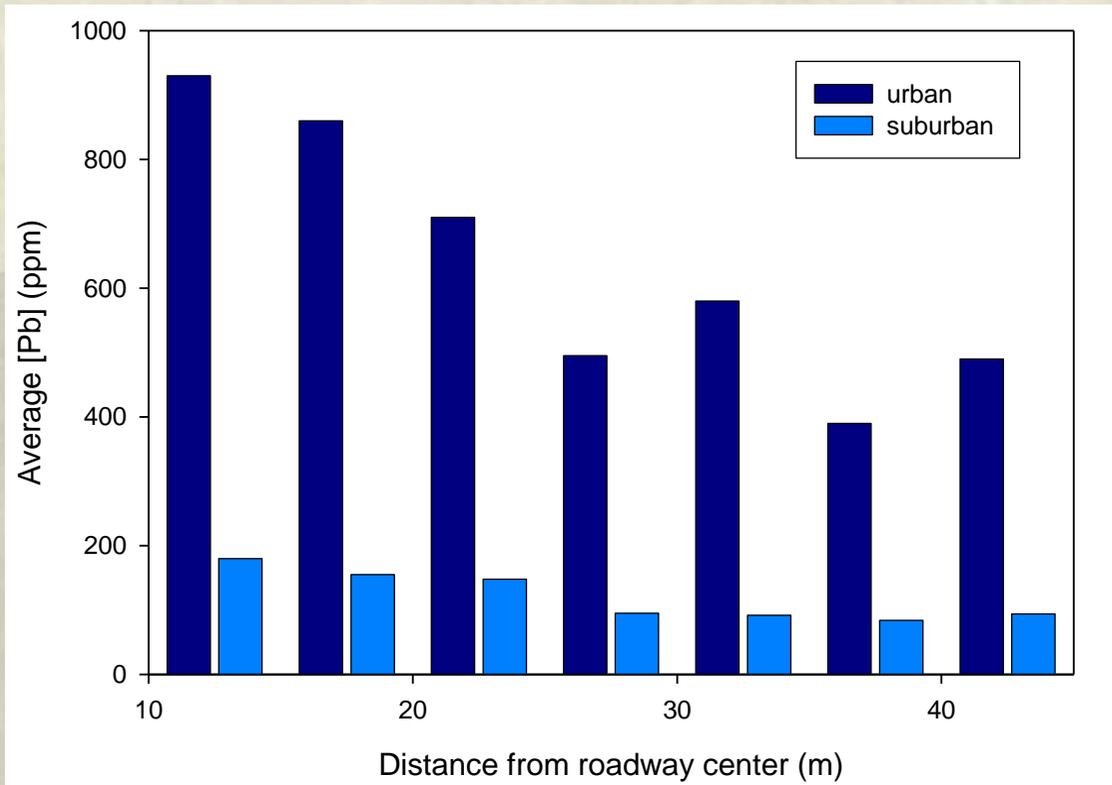
## ❖ Water

- Check line, filtration

## ❖ Soil

- The rest...

# *Lead doesn't "go away"*



- ❖ Lead and particulates can be blown into homes, gardens during dry season

# *So, what is a gardener to do?*

1. Where are you on the map?

2. Identify nearby sources

Major roadways, freeways

Dilapidated painted structures

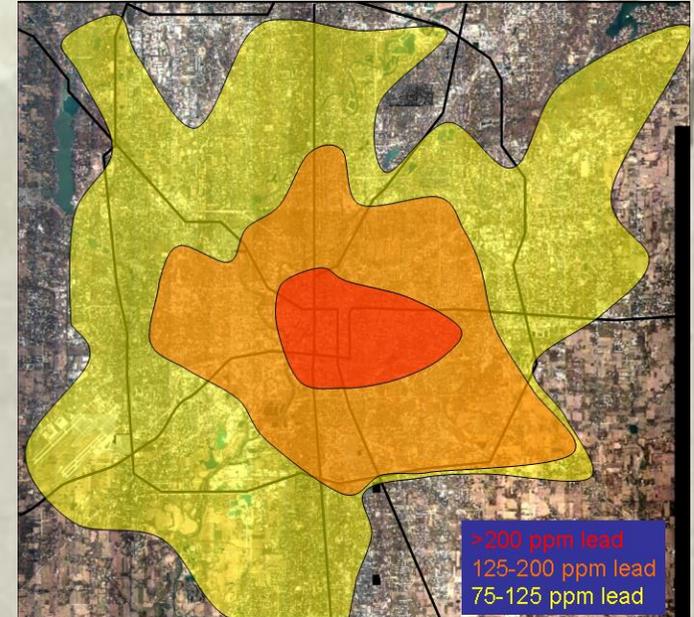
Old industrial facilities

3. Consider risk

**Low** outside elevated lead zone, far from major roadways, old structures

**Medium** within moderate lead zone, near to major roadways

**High** within high lead zone



# *So, what is a gardener to do?*

## ❖ **Low Risk**

- Relax, plant away, and gets your kids in there too!

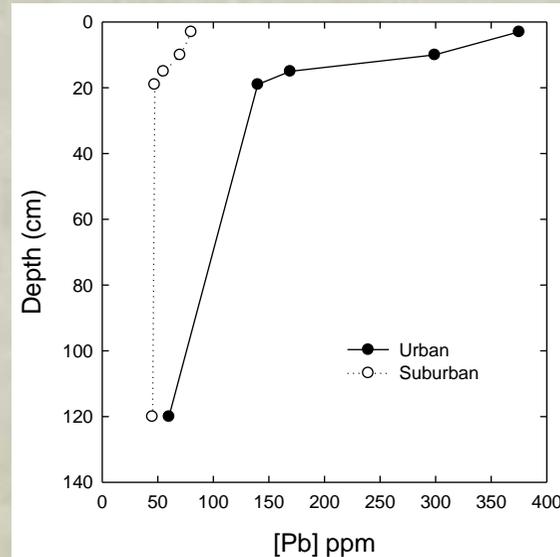
## ❖ **Medium** and **High Risk**

- Test soil ([gfilippe@iupui.edu](mailto:gfilippe@iupui.edu))
- **Below 200 ppm**
  - Plant with amendments, consider cover to make kid-safe, and wash all produce thoroughly

# *So, what is a gardener to do?*

## ❖ **200-600 ppm**

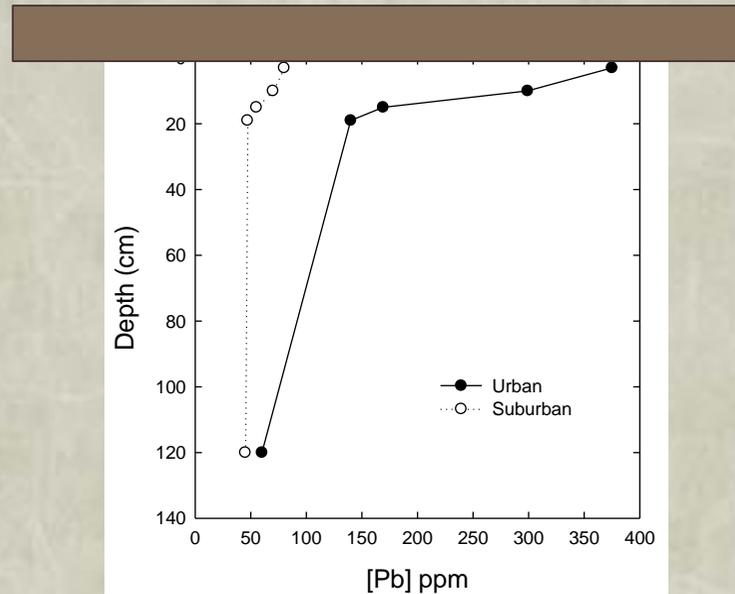
- Cover soil, plant in raised bed settings



# *So, what is a gardener to do?*

## ❖ **200-600 ppm**

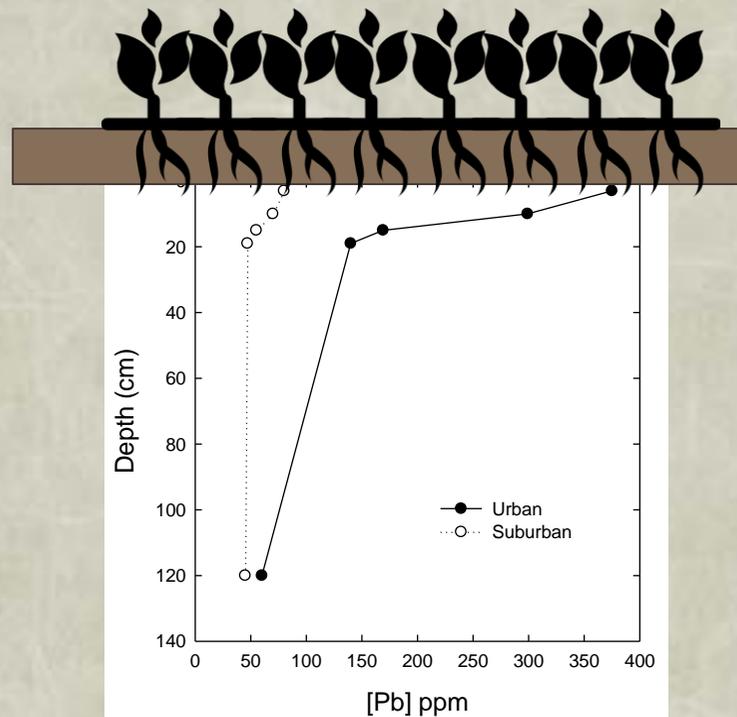
- Cover soil, plant in raised bed settings



# *So, what is a gardener to do?*

## ❖ **200-600 ppm**

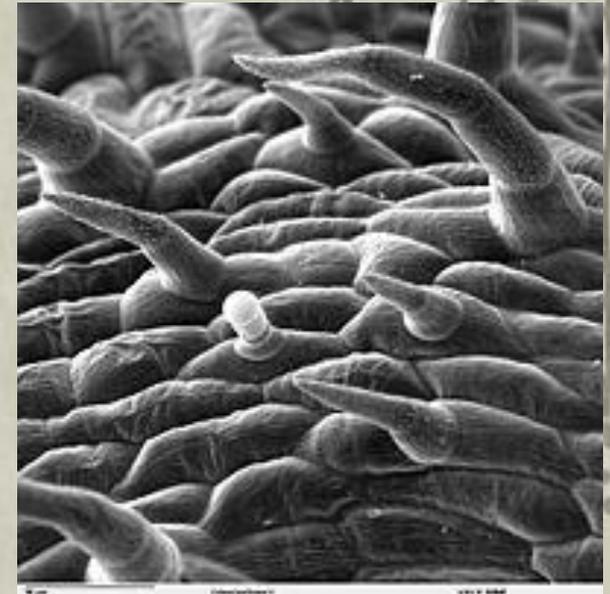
- Cover soil, plant in raised bed settings, beware of between-bed soils, wash all produce thoroughly



# *So, what is a gardener to do?*

## ❖ **Above 600 ppm**

- Proceed with caution—contamination could be coming from below and above
- Think carefully about root vegetables, leafy greens. Taller fruiting plants OK
- Cap all soils, maintain cap, avoid disturbing soils, wash all vegetables thoroughly



Lettuce trichomes, 200x



*Safe Urban Gardening Initiative*  
*gfilippe@iupui.edu*