

Lead in Fishing Sinkers



Did you know that



Most fishing sinkers are made of solid lead.
Lead in fishing sinkers can cause lead poisoning.



Lead dust from fishing sinkers can contaminate tackle boxes, tables, and other surfaces.



Even small amounts of lead can hurt a young child's growth and development. Children can get lead from fishing sinkers in their bodies when they:

- put fishing sinkers in their mouths;
- bite lead split shot sinkers to close them;
- handle sinkers, then eat or put their hands in their mouths;
- handle tackle boxes and fishing gear contaminated by lead sinkers.

WARNING!

MELTING LEAD TO CAST SINKERS IS VERY DANGEROUS!

Lead fumes and lead dust are hazardous to both children and adults. Your home, garage or yard can be contaminated with lead. Contra Costa children have been poisoned because of casting lead sinkers. Melting lead is not safe to do at home.

What Can You Do?

- Never put lead sinkers in your mouth.
- Never bite lead split shot sinkers to close them.
Lead-free split shot sinkers, made of tin, are available.
- Don't let toddlers and young children play with or handle lead sinkers.
- Store your tackle box and fishing gear out of children's reach.
- If your children fish with you, make sure they wash their hands well with soap and water after handling sinkers, especially before eating.