

Jon Doemel, County Executive
Doug Gieryn, Director/Health Officer

health@winnebagocountywi.gov
Facebook: @WinnebagoHealth
winnebagocountywi.gov/health



112 Otter Avenue
Oshkosh, WI 54903-2808
Phone: 920-232-3000

211 N Commercial Street
Neenah, WI 54956
Phone: 920-727-2894

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Ashley Mukasa, Multimedia & Public Relations Coordinator
920-232-3352, amukasa@winnebagocountywi.gov

Start the New Year with a Healthier Home, Test for Radon

Five Dollar Radon Tests Available Throughout January

OSHKOSH, Wis. (December 28, 2023) – During Radon Action Month this January, Winnebago County Public Health is raising awareness of the importance of testing for radon to ensure a healthier living environment. Radon is an invisible, odorless, and tasteless radioactive gas. It is the second leading cause of lung cancer and the leading cause among non-smokers, claiming over 21,000 lives in the United States every year. The only way to know if you have radon in your home is to test for it. Winnebago County Public Health sells radon tests for five dollars in January at their offices in Oshkosh and Neenah and at the Oshkosh Farmers Market.

"Winnebago County has higher than average levels of radon," said Doug Gieryn, health officer/director, Winnebago County Public Health. "Residing in a home with high levels of radon may cause lung cancer with the risk increasing over time."

Radon is produced from the natural radioactive decay of uranium, which is found in all rocks and soils. The gas can enter homes, new or old, through cracks in the foundation, dirt floors and openings around joints and pipes. The risk of radon exposure is higher in Winnebago County than in other regions in the state, and testing is recommended for all residents.

The radon level in homes is typically higher during the winter. Throughout January, during Radon Action Month, Winnebago County Public Health offers do-it-yourself, short-term radon test kits for five dollars. Available at the Neenah office located at 211 N. Commercial Street and the Oshkosh location at 112 Otter Avenue, these kits empower individuals to take proactive steps in ensuring their homes are free from this silent danger.

In addition, Winnebago County Public Health will be at the Oshkosh Farmers Market on Saturday, January 6, and January 27, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., offering test kits, answering questions and raising awareness about the significance of radon testing in preventing potential health risks.

If elevated radon levels are found, a radon mitigation contractor can be found at www.lowradon.org. If the cost of mitigation is a barrier, call 1-888 LOW-RADON to discuss available options.

For further information, inquiries or to obtain a radon test kit, contact Winnebago County Public Health at 920-232-3000 or visit winnebagocountywi.gov/health.

###