What is Radon?

- Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the breakdown of uranium in soil and rock.
- It is odorless, colorless, and invisible.
- Radon rises up from the soil and enters homes through small cracks in the foundation, walls, and joints.
- While you cannot see it or smell it, you *can* protect yourself from it.

Radon Concerns:

- Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Radon is responsible for approximately 21,000 lung cancer deaths every year in the U.S.
- Radon is very common in Winnebago County.
- Radon can damage DNA found in our bodies.
- <u>NOTE</u>: Newly constructed homes are just as vulnerable to high levels of radon.



Radon test kits can be purchased at both Winnebago County Public Health locations:

 Oshkosh
 112 Otter Ave.

 0shkosh
 Oshkosh, WI 54903

 (920) 232 - 3000

Neenah

211 N. Commercial St. Neenah, WI 54956 (920) 727 - 2894

All locations open 8 am - 4:30 pm Monday - Friday

Kits may also be purchased at Local City or Town clerks offices and home improvement stores.

Disclosure Notice

Radon test kits purchased from Winnebago County Public Health are made available at a reduced cost to the public with the use of Wisconsin State Indoor Radon Grant funds from the US EPA. When you purchase a test kit, Winnebago County Public Health and state health department will have access to the test results. The results will only be used to follow up with you if you have an elevated test result (>4pCi/L) or to add to a database used for populating an online

map of estimated radon risk potential. Your information will not be used for any other purpose or sold. Test results could be made available to the public if an information request specifically identified the need for address level data. Environmental test data is not confidential information.

By purchasing and using this kit from Winnebago County Public Health, you agree to allow sharing of test results between the lab and the local and state health departments as described above.





RADON What to know to protect your family.

Promote. Protect.

prevent.

How to Test

Radon testing is easy.

1. Get your test kit

 Testing is the only way to determine your level. Purchase a short-term or long-term kit today! (See back panel for locations)

2. Placement of test kit

- Place test kit in lowest living space away from doors, windows, and vents
- Note: Basements used infrequently are not the best location due to limited exposure. A first floor room (bedroom, living room) where there is longer exposure to radon is the best location

3. When should I test?

 In the winter when your home is closed up tight

4. What if my levels are high?

- Contact a certified mitigation company to install a mitigation system
- Find a mitigation company at: www.lowradon.org





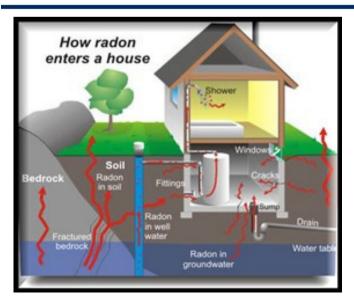
What do my results mean? What action is needed?

Steps Needed

Test Result

Less than 4 pCi/L	No immediate follow-up is needed. Test the home again after any air sealing work, heating/air conditioning system changes, or foundation modification, and routine testing should be done every 1-2 years to ensure low levels are maintained.
Between 4 - 7 pCi/L	Do a long-term test to determine your average radon exposure. However, you can conduct a short-term test if quicker results are desired. (Call 1-888-569- 7236 to learn more about long-term testing.) Radon levels may change with seasons and are low when windows are open. The average radon level in occupied floors of your home determines your lung cancer risk from radon exposure.
8 pCi/L and Above	Do a follow-up short-term test immediately. If the average of the two results is greater than 4 pCi/L, you should contact a certified mitigation company. The higher your short-term test results, the more certain it is that you need to take action.

Radon is measured in picocuries per liter, which are abbreviated pCi/L.



What If I Rent?

What are my rights?

There is no Wisconsin law requiring landlords to lower radon levels in their rental properties.

Therefore...

Ask your landlord if your rental property has been tested. If it has been tested, ask for radon levels.

If it has not been tested, ask your landlord if they are willing to purchase a test kit, or consider purchasing a test kit yourself.



For more information:

www.winnebagocountywi.gov

≡⊠ WCPH.EH@winnebagocountywi.gov

WI DHS:

www.lowradon.org www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/radon/index.htm

American Lung Association:

www.lung.org/clean-air/indoor-air/indoorair-pollutants/radon

US EPA: www.epa.gov/radon