

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

Office Hours: M-F 8:00am-4:30pm  
Toll-Free: 800-250-3110  
Fax: 920-232-3370

health@co.winnebago.wi.us  
www.winnebagohealth.org



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Winnebago County  
Health Department**

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

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

Find us on Facebook and Twitter  
@WinnebagoHealth

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:  
Ashley Mukasa  
Communications Specialist  
920-232-3352  
[amukasa@co.winnebago.wi.us](mailto:amukasa@co.winnebago.wi.us)

# Radon Tests Urged for All County Homes

## Radon Test Kits Available for Five Dollars this Month

**OSHKOSH, Wis. (January 5, 2022)** – January is Radon Action Month. The U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recommended that all residents test their home at least once for the presence of radon gas. If high levels of radon gas are detected, simple steps can be taken to correct the problem and make your home safe.

Radon is a naturally occurring, odorless, tasteless, colorless radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer. Uranium in rock, soil and water naturally decays and gives off radon. In Winnebago County, the risk of exposure to radon is higher than other regions in the state. The average radon level for Winnebago county is 6.4 pCi/L, which is greater than the average for the state of Wisconsin and is above the US EPA guideline. Any level at or above 4.0 pCi/L is considered dangerous, and further action should be taken to lower the level of radon.

Both old and new homes are at risk of high radon levels. It can enter your home through cracks in the foundation, openings around joints and pipes, and dirt floors. Radon can build to high levels inside your home, and long-term exposure to these high levels of radon can cause lung cancer. The Surgeon General advises that, after cigarette smoke, exposure to radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Radon combined with cigarette smoke poses an increased risk for lung cancer.

The only way to know if you have a safe level of radon inside your home is to conduct a radon test. The winter months are the best time to test for radon because most homes are tightly closed up. The test is simple and quick. This month, during Radon Action Month, the Winnebago County Health Department is offering do-it-yourself, short-term (48-hour) test kits for five dollars, which is half off the regular cost. The kits may be picked up at the Winnebago County Health Department in Neenah (211 N. Commercial St.) or Oshkosh (112 Otter Ave.), Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The Winnebago County Health Department will also be selling radon test kits at the Oshkosh Farmers Market on Saturday, January 8, between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

If elevated radon levels are found, a radon mitigation contractor can be found at [www.lowradon.org](http://www.lowradon.org). Thousands of systems are installed in existing homes in Wisconsin each year. Newly constructed homes should include features recommended by the National Association of Home Builders to reduce radon entry. The cost of mitigation can be a barrier for some families, and residents can call 1-888 LOW-RADON to discuss available options.

If you have any questions, or want more information on radon, please contact the Winnebago County Health Department at 920-232-3000, or visit [www.lowradon.org](http://www.lowradon.org).

###