

WHAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT **RADON**

UNDERSTANDING RADON GAS IN CT
AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT

RECOGNIZE THE RISKS

- **Radon is common.** It is found in outdoor air, indoor air, and buildings of all kinds.
- **Radon is still the #2 cause of lung cancer and the #1 cause among non-smokers.** It is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and radioactive.
- **1 in 4 CT homes have elevated levels of radon**
- **Radon can exist in air or water.** The information presented in this flyer relates to radon gas found in the air.
- **Current or previous smoking** can elevate the risk of lung cancer from radon exposure.
- **Testing is inexpensive** and effective.
- **Radon mitigation systems** can reduce up to 99% of radon gas.

**1 OUT OF 4
HOMES
IN CONNECTICUT
HAVE HIGH RADON**



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WHERE AND WHEN TO TEST

- **WHERE:** Testing makes sense in any habitable place that may contain radon. Closets, crawlspaces and hallways should NOT be tested as they are not used as living space.
- **WHERE:** The lowest livable area of the house is where you should test. Basements are the most common test area because they are often used as living space and ground contact is the primary source of radon.
- **WHEN:** Radon tests are often part of the process of buying or selling a home.
- **WHEN:** Radon testing can take place any time of year. Winter is the season that often produces worst case results because of the stack effect, in which air is drawn into the house from warm air rising and escaping.

HOW TO TEST

- **For a step by step video guide** to testing for radon gas, go here – www.ct.gov/radon
- **Close doors and windows 12 hours prior to the test.** Keep them closed during the entire test. Doors can be opened and closed for normal entry and exit without compromising the test.
- **The most commonly used test is a 2-7 day test for radon gas.** Follow all instructions, and when the test is done, seal it and send to lab via regular mail.

REDUCING RADON: WHAT TO EXPECT

- **The EPA recommends** that any level at or above 2 pCi/L justifies a radon mitigation system.
- **Mitigation costs** average around \$1200.
- **Several techniques are available**, but the most common by far is an SSD or Sub Slab Depressurization System.
- **SSD systems work** by preventing radon from entering the house. Installation involves sealing the foundation and depressurizing the soil.

RADON IS EVERYWHERE

- Radon is everywhere. It's a permanent part of life in CT. But so is the DPH, and we're here to help you in any way we can.
- Learn more at www.ct.gov/radon

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