

GET THE FACTS ON RADON

- 1 out of 15 homes in the US is estimated have elevated radon levels
- Over 21,000 lung cancer deaths are associated with radon exposure each year in the US.
- Elevated levels of radon can be found in any type of home and in any area in Vermont
- Only 28% of Vermont homes with elevated radon levels have a radon mitigation system in place to remove it
- Vermont law does not require a radon test for a real estate transaction
- Radon test kits are most accurate at the lowest level of living space
- Radon removal systems usually involve a venting pipe and fan and do not require a major structural change

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

healthvermont.org;

<http://www.epa.gov/radon>

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COULD YOUR HOME BE EXPOSED TO HIGH LEVELS OF RADON?

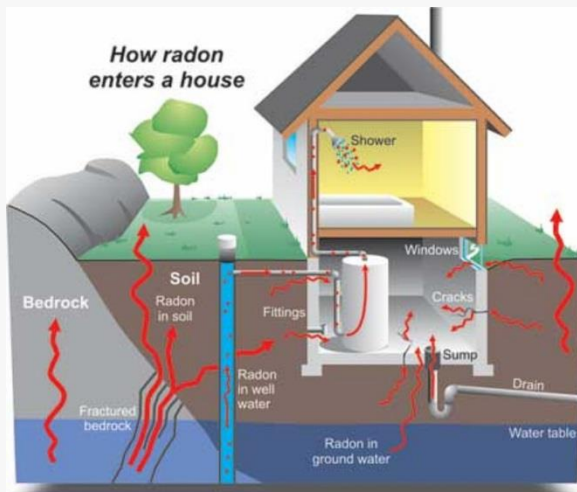


LEARN HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY FROM THIS DANGEROUS GAS

COMMON QUESTIONS ON RADON

WHAT IS RADON?

- **Radon is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas** that is found naturally in soil, water and rocks all over the U.S.
- **Radon is radioactive** and comes from the breakdown of uranium, the same substance used to fuel nuclear power plants
- **Radon can enter any type of building through the soil** as gas, and sometimes through water. Homes can act like chimneys funneling the rising radon gas to upper floors and pulling more out of the soil. This is why **most radon exposure tends to occur in people's homes** where they often spend the majority of their time.



WHAT ARE THE HEALTH RISKS OF RADON EXPOSURE?

- **Prolonged radon exposure is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the US after smoking**
- **There are no symptoms for brief or prolonged radon exposure**, meaning that the only way for a person to know that they are exposed is to test their home for radon



HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF AND MY FAMILY FROM RADON?

- The best way to protect yourself from radon exposure is to get your home tested and installing radon removal system
- **FREE radon test kits are available from the Vermont Department of Health**
 - An Online form can be found at: <http://healthvermont.gov/enviro/rad/Radon.aspx>
 - You can also call to request a kit at 1-800-439-8550

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY HOME HAS A HIGH RADON LEVEL?



- **The Environmental Protection Agency marks 4.0 pCi/L as the action level for radon.**
- If you test your home for radon and find radon levels higher than 4.0 pCi/L you should get help from a certified radon mitigation specialist.
- A radon mitigation specialist is a licensed expert in installing home radon removal systems
- A list of local vendors can found at: <http://www.nrsb.org/>
 - Or call toll free at 1-866-329-3474