

# Protect Your Family From Radon

Radon is a cancer-causing, radioactive gas.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas released in rock, soil, and water from the natural decay of uranium. While levels in outdoor air pose a relatively low threat to human health, radon can accumulate to dangerous levels inside buildings.

You cannot see, smell, or taste it, but an elevated radon level in your home may be affecting the health of your family. Exposure to radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and the number one cause among non-smokers. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths.

High levels of radon have been found in every state.

No area of the country is free from risk. Radon can get into any type of building and build up to high levels. A high level of radon in the home usually comes from the surrounding soil. Radon enters through cracks and openings – such as doors, windows, and plumbing features – on the lower levels of your home.

You should test for radon.

Testing is the only way to know if you and your family are at risk. The U.S. Surgeon General recommends that all homes in the U.S. be tested for radon.

Radon testing is simple. All you have to do is open a package, place the radon detector in a designated area, and after a set number of days, send the detector back to a lab for analysis. The lab will inform you of your radon test results.

You can fix a radon problem.

Radon presents a serious health risk. If your home has a radon problem, you can take steps today to fix it to protect yourself and your family. Encourage your friends and family members to do the same!

For more information about testing your home for radon and finding a test kit, call the Oakland County Health Division's Environmental Health Services Unit at 248.858.1312.



*The Oakland County Health Division will not deny participation in its programs based on race, sex, religion, national origin, age, or disability. State and federal eligibility requirements apply for certain programs.*