

What is Radon?

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas released in rock, soil and water that can build up to dangerous levels inside any home.



Radon gas is odorless, colorless, tasteless, and invisible and the only way to know if a home has a radon problem is to test for it.



Breathing radon can increase one's risk of lung cancer.

Radon causes approximately 21,000 lung cancer related deaths per year.

If my home tests positive for radon, can I fix it?

Indoor radon levels can be lowered by installing a radon mitigation system that collects radon prior to its entry into the house and discharges it to a safe location above the highest eave of the home. The cost to reduce radon depends on how your home was built and how you use it.

Mitigation systems should be installed by a licensed professional. Visit the Henry and Stark County Health Department website for a list of licensed mitigators in the area.

For more on radon visit:
www.henrystarkhealth.com
www.radon.illinois.gov
or call (800) 3251 245



Radon in Henry and Stark County Area



Henry & Stark County
Health Departments



It is the second leading cause of lung cancer after active smoking and the leading cause among nonsmokers.

Radon in Henry County

A recent radon study done by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) showed that approximately 65% of homes in Henry County and 82% of homes in Stark County have radon levels above the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) action level of 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L). This is the level at which residents should take steps to reduce the radon level in their home.

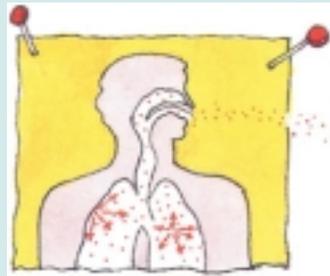
Illinois Radon Map

- Low Potential
- Moderate Potential
- High Potential



Does Radon Really Cause Lung Cancer?

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas present in the soil and water that can build up to dangerous levels in the home.

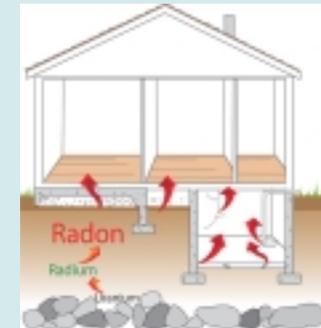


Radon is a Class A human carcinogen, meaning there is actual evidence that exposure to radon causes lung cancer in humans. Radon's cancer causing risk is recognized by the:

- ◆ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
- ◆ American Medical Association
- ◆ U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Protection (CDC)
- ◆ American Lung Association
- ◆ World Health Organization (WHO)
- ◆ American Cancer Society
- ◆ U.S. Surgeon General

Testing for Radon

Radon enters the home through openings in the foundation. It is drawn into the house due to air pressure differences between the inside and outside of the home.



Testing is the only way to know the radon risk in your home. All homes should be tested regardless of the age of the home or whether or not there is a basement.

Radon testing is easy and inexpensive and can be done by the homeowner themselves or by a licensed radon measurement professional.

New homes can now be built with radon resistant features. Contact your builder for information regarding this process.