



Extension Connection

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The mission of K-State Research and Extension Family and Consumer Sciences is to link education with life experiences to help people improve their lives, their families and their communities. Family and Consumer Sciences professionals support essential life skills including Community Development, Healthy Lifestyle Choices, Leadership & Volunteer Development, Relationship Development and Resource Management.

Radon

You can't see, smell, or taste radon, but it could be present at a dangerous level in your home. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer deaths among nonsmokers in America and claims the lives of about 20,000 Americans each year. In fact, the EPA and the U.S. Surgeon General urge all Americans to protect their health by testing their homes, schools, and other buildings for radon.

Radon can be found all over the U.S. It comes from the natural breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water. It gets into the air you breathe. The greatest exposure usually comes from your home, where you spend most of your time.

Exposure to radon is a preventable health risk, and testing radon levels in your home can help prevent unnecessary exposure. If a high radon level is detected in your home, you can take steps to fix the problem to protect yourself and your family.

Four Things You Can Do:

1. Test your home - EPA and the U.S. Surgeon General recommend that all homes in the U.S. be tested for radon. Testing is easy and inexpensive.
2. Look for radon events in your community.
3. Spread the word - Tell your family and friends about the health risks of radon. Encourage them to test their homes. Plan an activity in your community to help raise awareness. Attract media attention by working with a local official to get a radon proclamation.
4. Buy a radon-resistant home - If you are considering buying a new home, look for builders who use radon-resistant new construction.

Radon testing kits can be purchased at your local Extension office for a minimal charge.

Source:<http://www.epa.gov/radon/nram/public.html>

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