

A home buyer or seller should (or may elect to) have a home tested for radon by a qualified radon tester.

A qualified radon tester can:

- Evaluate the home and recommend a testing approach to ensure reliable results;
- Explain the acceptable conditions to maintain during the radon test;
- Offer guidelines on home occupant's role to ensure reliable test results;
- Analyze the data and report the measurement results; and
- Provide an independent test result.

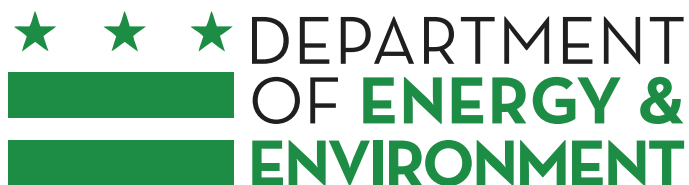
For a list of Radon Professionals, visit:



National Radon Safety Board (NRSB) at nrsb.org or



The American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (AARST) at aarst-nrpp.com



1200 First Street NE, 5th Floor
Washington DC, 20002
(202)535-2600 | doee.dc.gov



HOME SALES & RADON GAS



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT RADON

Radon is a naturally occurring, cancer causing, radioactive gas. It is produced by a breakdown of uranium in soil, rock, and water and moves up through the ground into the air and penetrates your home through cracks and other holes in the foundation.

Radon can be found in all types of buildings, including homes, offices, and schools. Your greatest exposure to radon may be where you spend most of your time —at home. Homes that are next to each other can have varying levels of radon, so do not rely on measurements taken in your neighbor's home to determine your home's radon levels.

Since radon levels tend to vary from day to day and season to season, a short-term test (fewer than 90 days) will not provide your annual average radon level. Long-term tests (greater than 90 days) can be ordered through or purchased from a local hardware store.

The Surgeon General has warned radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States; only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths. You cannot see, smell, or taste radon. Testing is the only way to determine your home's radon levels.

Residents of the District of Columbia should call the radon hotline at 202.535.2302 or visit doee.dc.gov/radon to receive a free radon test kit.

One proven method for reducing high levels is to install a vent pipe system and fan. This pulls radon from beneath the house and vents it to the outside. This is known as a soil suction radon reduction system and does not require major changes to your home.

It is also recommended that you know the indoor radon level in any home you are considering buying. Request a radon test early in the buying process.

