

## **Radon Information Summary**

### **What is Radon and why does it enter your home?**

- Naturally occurring radioactive gas in soil
- Leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers
- Accumulates under structures such as a home
- Low pressure in basement moves soil gases into basement
- Enters through cracks in basement floor, sump crocks, wall/floor joints, etc.
- Winter is the best time to test for radon; house is closed & heat is on

### **Where do you get test kits, how & where do you test, and what do your results mean?**

#### **Where do I get a test kit?**

##### **By mail:**

**Public Health Madison & Dane County**  
**Attn: Radon Program**  
**2300 S. Park Street, Room 2022**  
**Madison WI 53713**

Short-term kits **\$10.00** each, Long-term **\$15.00**. Check made out to: **Madison City Treasurer**

##### **In person:**

**East Washington Office**  
**2705 E. Washington**

**City-County Building**  
**215 MLK Jr Blvd; Rm. 507**

**Atrium Office**  
**2300 S. Park St., Rm. 2010**

#### **How should I test?**

- Start with a short-term radon test kit (*see what do my results mean below*)
- Cost: Do it yourself short-term kits are ~ \$10.00;
- Test in the lowest lived in level of your home
- Conduct the test in winter months with the house closed and heat on
- Long-term kits are \$15.00 if appropriate

#### **Where do I place a radon test kit?**

- At least 20 inches off the floor
- At least 4 inches from other objects (in can be placed on a table, dresser, etc.)
- At least 12 inches from an outside wall
- At least 3 feet from windows and doors to the outside
- Avoid drafts and high humidity (such as bathrooms & Kitchens)

### What do my results mean?

- Below 4 pCi/L, test again in 5-6 yrs or if structural changes in home
- Between 4-8 pCi/L, conduct Long-term test (90 days – 1 yr) incl. winter
- Above 8 pCi/L, conduct 2<sup>nd</sup> short-term test. Mitigate if average above 8 pCi/l.

### **For more information regarding Radon**

- South-Central WI Radon Information Center @ 608-243-0392

### Where do I find a radon mitigation contractor?

- [www.lowradon.org](http://www.lowradon.org)
- The following page shows what the website looks like

**Once the site is open, click on Find a contractor. Contractors are listed by county.**

The screenshot shows the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website. The header includes the DHS logo and a search bar. A navigation bar lists various topics, and a breadcrumb trail shows the path: Home > Prevention & Healthy Living > Environmental Health > Radon > Radon Information for Wisconsin. On the left, a sidebar menu lists radon-related topics, with 'Find a Contractor' highlighted by a red circle. The main content area is titled 'Radon Information for Wisconsin' and features social media icons, a headline stating 'About 1 out of 10 homes in Wisconsin has high radon levels', and a paragraph explaining radon's risks. Below this, there are three sections: 'TEST YOUR HOME' (contacting a Radon Information Center), 'FIX A RADON PROBLEM' (checking out certified contractor listings), and 'SAVE A LIFE' (noting radon as the second leading cause of lung cancer). To the right, there is a 'Radon 101' video player and an interactive map of Wisconsin showing radon test results.