



Department of Health
Agency of Human Services



Nearly 1,500 Free Radon Test Kits Available from Health Department

For Immediate Release: Feb. 8, 2011

Media Contact: Communication Office
Vermont Department of Health
802-863-7281

BURLINGTON – The Vermont Department of Health has nearly 1,500 free radon test kits available, and only an estimated 10 percent of Vermont homes have been tested for radon. For non-smokers, radon is the leading cause of lung cancer.

“Winter is the best time to test, and we know that about one in every eight Vermont homes has elevated levels of radon,” said Lori Cragin, a Health Department epidemiologist. “The likelihood of a radon problem cannot be predicted by the style, age, or location of a home, all homes are at risk.”

Health officials recommend a long-term radon test as the best way to measure radon levels in your home. Testing is easy, you open the kit and leave it in place throughout a heating season. Then mail the kit into the Health Department to get your results. Get a free kit by e-mailing radon@ahs.state.vt.us, or call 1-800-439-8550.

Exposure to radon is preventable and fixable through proper venting techniques. If test results show that you have high levels of radon in your air, a mitigation system can be installed at a cost of approximately \$800-\$2,000.

Radon gas can get into your home from the soil. A house can act like a large chimney, with warm air rising and escaping out upper floor windows and through cracks in the attic. This creates a vacuum at the lowest level of the house, which can pull the radon from the soil into the home.

For more information about radon, radon testing and mitigation, visit the Health Department website at healthvermont.gov. You can also follow us on [Twitter](#) or join us on [Facebook](#) for health information and alerts.

###

Vermont Department of Health | 108 Cherry Street | Burlington, VT 05402
Voice: 802-863-7200 | In Vermont 800-464-4343 | Fax: 802-865-7754 | TTY/TDD: Dial 711 first
Health Care Provider Infectious Disease Reporting: 802-863-7240 or 800-640-4374
||| | [Web Browser](#)

