



MEDIA RELEASE

LA CROSSE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ENCOURAGES RADON TESTING DURING RADON ACTION MONTH

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Radon is an odorless, colorless, invisible gas that can enter any home or building through its foundation. In Wisconsin, one in 10 homes has elevated radon levels. Radon is responsible for about 21,000 lung cancer deaths each year among non-smokers, with approximately 962 of those deaths occurring in Wisconsin.

The only way to know if a home or building has a radon problem is through testing. Fortunately, radon testing is simple, affordable, and can be done with an easy-to-use test kit.

If a test is elevated, high radon levels can be successfully reduced with the help of a certified radon mitigation contractor. Wisconsin has over 100 nationally certified radon mitigation contractors who can install radon mitigation systems in homes or buildings. A list of certified radon mitigation contractors can be found at www.lowradon.org or by contacting your local Radon Information Center.

Short-term radon test kits are typically available for \$11.00 at La Crosse County Health Department or any county library branch. If high radon levels are detected, a long-term confirmation test can also be purchased at the La Crosse County Health Department for \$25.00.

In honor of Radon Action Month, the La Crosse County Health Department is offering a \$2.00 discount on all test kits. This brings the price of a short-term test to \$9.00 and a long-term test to \$23.00 during the month of January.

La Crosse County Health Department is a Radon Information Center supported by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and US EPA. For more information about radon, contact Mekaela Malloy at 608-790-5638 or visit the Wisconsin Radon information website at www.lowradon.org.