

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Free Radon Test Kits Available at DHD#10

District Health Department #10 is providing free radon test kits during National Radon Action Month, January 3rd-31st, 2017.

Struggling to set a New Year's resolution? Here is an idea- take action to ensure your home is safe for you and your family. District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) encourages you to test your home for radon in recognition of National Radon Action Month, January 2017. During the month of January, visit your local DHD#10 office to receive a free radon test kit and learn more about this environmental hazard. Take action to reduce your exposure to radon; test your home.

Radon is a naturally-occurring, invisible, odorless, radioactive gas that is found in rock and soil. Radon is usually harmless but becomes dangerous when it is trapped inside buildings and homes. Radon can move into your home through cracks and small openings in your foundation. If radon is present in your home it has the potential to build up and become harmful. Because there are no physical signs that will alert you to the presence of radon in your home, testing is the only way to know if you are at risk.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), each year about 21,000 Americans die from lung cancer caused by exposure to radon. Radon is the number one cause of lung cancer among non-smokers, according to EPA estimates. Radon will not cause any warning symptoms to let you know you are being exposed; it does not cause a rash, headache, nausea, etc. To prevent life-threatening health complications, test your home for radon.

Remember, any home could have a radon problem, whether it is new or old, built over a basement or crawlspace, or if your neighbor has a radon problem or not. In Michigan, nearly one in eight homes is expected to have a radon problem, and in some counties as many as 40-45% of the homes could have problems. Protect you and your home, be certain, and test your own home.

Visit www.dhd10.org/contact-us to find your local DHD#10 office. For additional information on radon, visit www.michigan.gov/degradon.

The mission of District Health Department #10 is to promote and enhance the health of our communities and environment through protection, prevention, and intervention. Serving Crawford, Lake, Mason, Missaukee, Oceana, Kalkaska, Manistee, Mecosta, Newaygo, and Wexford Counties.

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