

## NATIONAL RADON ACTION MONTH

### Free Radon Test Kits Available

January 2, 2019 – District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) encourages you to test your home for radon in recognition of National Radon Action Month. 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 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,” states Tom Reichard, Environmental Health Director at DHD#10. “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.

Please visit [www.dhd10.org/contact-us/](http://www.dhd10.org/contact-us/) or call 888-217-3904 to connect with your local District Health Department #10 office.

#### About DHD #10

District Health Department #10 (DHD #10) is Michigan's largest geographical health department, mandated to promote and protect the public from unsafe and hazardous conditions and provide methods of promoting good health and disease prevention. Some of the vital programs provided by DHD #10 include Immunizations, Infectious Disease Control, STI Testing and Counseling, WIC, Maternal Infant Health Program, Healthy Families Northern Michigan, Children's Special Health Services, Hearing and Vision Screening, Family Planning, Cancer Screening, Worksite Wellness, Smoking Cessation, Substance Use Prevention, Chronic Disease Prevention, and Environmental Health Services. DHD #10 serves Crawford, Kalkaska, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Missaukee, Newaygo, Oceana, and Wexford counties. For more information, visit [www.dhd10.org](http://www.dhd10.org).



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#### COUNTIES SERVED:

Crawford  
Kalkaska  
Lake  
Manistee  
Mason  
Mecosta  
Missaukee  
Newaygo  
Oceana  
Wexford



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