

Radon Risks

**Lung Cancer in
Non-Smokers**

Radon and Lung Cancer

- **Radon exposure** is the **#1 cause of lung cancer deaths among non-smokers** in the US.
- The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that radon causes more than **20,000 lung cancer deaths** in the US each year.
- Radon claims more lives in the US than AIDS.
- Radon is usually discovered during a house inspection.



What is Radon?

Radon is a **radioactive gas** released from rock, soil and water through the natural decay of uranium.

Radon is:

- invisible
- odorless
- tasteless

No area is free from risk.

Can be dealt with in your home.



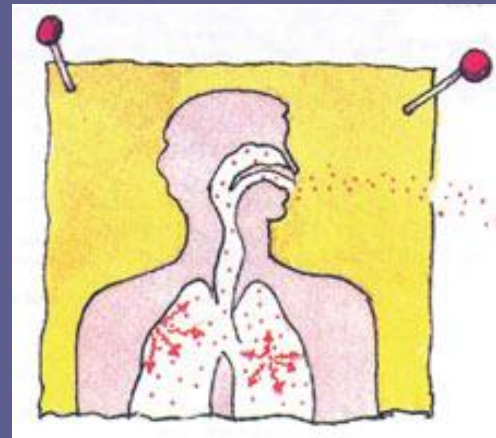
How do I Know if I am Being Exposed to Radon?



- Test your **home, church and school!**
- **Radon test kits** are available free of charge during January, which is **Radon Action Month**. NC residents may order **free test kits** from www.ncradon.org

How do I Know if I am Being Exposed to Radon?

- If a high level of radon is detected in your home, the cost to correct the situation is about the same cost as having a new hot water heater installed.
- For more information about radon, visit www.epa.gov/radon.



Things You Can Do During Radon Action Month

- 1. Test your home, church and school!**
- 2. Attend a National Radon Action Month event in your area** Contact your state radon program for more information about local radon activities.
- 3. Spread the word**
 - Tell your family & friends about the health risks of radon. Encourage them to test their homes.
 - Plan an activity in your community to help raise awareness.
 - Write a letter to the editor.
 - Work with the media and local officials.
- 4. Buy a radon-resistant home** - If you are building a new home, look for builders who use radon-resistant materials.

Words from a Lung Cancer Survivor:

“Few survive a lung cancer diagnosis. I was diagnosed four years ago. For your health and the health of your loved ones, test your home.”

Dusty Donaldson, lung cancer survivor and advocate

Cancer Dietitian

Lifestyle tips for prevention and survivorship

