



County of Rockland Department of Health NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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January is Radon Action Month *Department of Health offers FREE radon tests*

Pomona, NY- The Rockland County Department of Health announces that January is Radon Action Month, a time to educate the public about radon risks and encourage home testing.

“Radon exposure is estimated to cause over 20,000 lung cancer deaths in the U.S each year and is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. This number can be reduced by easy, inexpensive home testing and repair,” said Dr. Joan Facelle, Rockland County Commissioner of Health.

Radon is a naturally occurring, colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that can accumulate in your home and can cause cancer in you and your loved ones. Radon usually comes from the surrounding rocks/soil under your homes foundation and can enter through cracks and openings on the lowest level of your home.

Many people don't know about radon because you cannot see, smell or taste it. Exposure to radon is the second cause of lung cancer in the United States, and the number one cause of lung cancer among non-smokers.

“Everyone should know their risk and have their home tested. Testing your home is especially important if you live in a high-risk area or if you are planning to build or buy a home,” said Facelle.

The Healthy Neighborhood Program, part of the Rockland County Department of Health, is providing **FREE** radon testing, at your home, for low to moderate-income families and seniors. Testing is as simple as leaving the kit in a specific area for a set number of days and returning it to a testing facility. There is no cost to the resident for testing. Results are generally available in one to two weeks. If your home does have elevated levels of radon, a qualified radon mitigation contractor can make repairs to solve the problem and protect your family.

For more information or to see if you live in a high-risk area, visit <http://nyradon.org>.

To schedule a free radon test, while supplies last, contact:
Christine Wagner at (845) 364-3292 or Shari Stopleter at (845) 364-3290.

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