



January 6, 2015

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January is Radon Action Month
Now is the time to test your home, protect your health

The Kane County Healthy Places Coalition and the Kane County Health Department would like to remind residents that January is National Radon Action Month. Radon gas is naturally occurring due to the unique geology in northern Illinois. It is invisible, odorless, tasteless and is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency reports that if a home or building tests at 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) or higher, action should be taken to reduce the level of radon. The average indoor radon level in Kane County is 5.07 pCi/L, according to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA). At least 44% of the buildings tested in Kane County have been found to exceed the 4 pCi/L standard. Residents can find the average radon level for homes in their ZIP code by clicking on the IEMA link [here](#).

The only way to know if your home has a high level of radon is by testing. Test kits can be purchased at many local hardware stores (prices vary), from the American Lung Association for \$12 by calling 1-800-LUNG USA, or from the Kane County Health Department and Kane County Development Department that include both lab analysis and postage for only \$15 at the three locations below:

- **Kane County Health Department**
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
1240 N. Highland Ave. Ste. 5, Aurora
- **Kane County Health Department**
Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
1750 Grandstand Place, Elgin
- **Kane County Development Department**
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
719 S. Batavia Ave., 4th Floor, Geneva

Free test kits are available for those who are income eligible through Community Contacts, Inc. at (847) 697-8800.

(MORE)

The Healthy Places Coalition and Health Department will be promoting radon awareness throughout the month of January with press releases, presentations and regular postings on social media. You can follow us on Twitter at @KaneCoHealth and Facebook at www.facebook.com/kanehealth. More information about Kane County's radon program, including information on student video and poster contests, a speakers bureau and steps you can take to reduce the level of radon gas in your home can be found on the Health Department's website at www.kanehealth.com/radon.htm.

The Kane County Healthy Places Coalition is formed by participants from diverse aspects of the community, including the US Environmental Protection Agency, the Kane County Health Department, municipal governments, hospitals, fire departments, community advocacy groups, non-profits, private corporations, and many others.

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