



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Jacob Frie

Phone: (218) 824-1124

RADON IS PERSISTENT HEALTH RISK IN MINNESOTA

Crow Wing County and the Minnesota Department of Health recommend that all homes be tested for radon. A home should be tested at least every 5 years. It is important to perform a radon test after buying a new heating system or adding central air conditioning. Radon is an odorless, colorless and tasteless radioactive gas that occurs naturally in Minnesota soils and can enter homes through cracks and openings in basement or foundation floors and walls.

Radon is the largest environmental cancer risk and leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. It is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. In Minnesota, 2 in 5 homes have radon levels that pose a significant health risk. Fortunately, the risk is largely preventable.

Crow Wing County Land Services Department offers **free** radon testing kits to area residents. Radon test kits are available to be picked up in the Land Services Building at the customer service counter located at 322 Laurel St. Ste 15, Brainerd, MN between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm. There is a limit of one radon kit per household.

Test your home to see if you have elevated radon levels. Testing is easy, inexpensive and takes 3-5 days. In homes with levels over 4.0 pCi/L, homeowners should consider verification testing and possibly installing a mitigation system, which will remove radon from your home.

For more information on radon testing and mitigation visit:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/news/pressrel/2019/radon011519.html> or call the Minnesota Department of Health Indoor Air Unit at 651-201-4601 or 1-800-798-9050. A map on this website shows radon testing rates for every census tract in Minnesota. The Minnesota Department of Health says that, even if your county has a lower average radon level, it is important to test your own home since radon levels can vary widely between homes-even in the same neighborhood.

Anyone interested in mitigating their home for radon should consult the Minnesota Department of Health's list of certified radon mitigation contractors at

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/indoorair/radon/mitigation.html>.

The Land Services Department is committed to providing excellent customer service while helping landowners make wise choices that protect Crow Wing County's extraordinary natural resources. Citizens are encouraged to contact the Land Services Office at (218) 824-1010 or landservices@crowwing.us to discuss land use activities. Crow Wing County information and resources can be found at www.crowwing.us.

Land Services Department
322 Laurel Street, Suite 15
Brainerd, MN 56401

Office: (218) 824-1010

Fax: (218) 824-1126

www.crowwing.us

Our Vision: Being Minnesota's favorite place.

Our Mission: Serve well. Deliver value. Drive results.

Our Values: Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.