

National Radon Month

January is National Radon Month, and the Teton County Health Department would like to remind you about the health risks associated with radon. Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer. This radioactive gas is the second leading cause of lung cancer behind smoking, and [radon has a greater impact on those that smoke](#). Here in Wyoming, we are in [radon zone 1](#) which has the highest potential for elevated indoor radon levels. You cannot see, smell, or taste radon; testing is the only way to know your level of exposure.

Radon is a radioactive gas that comes from the decay of uranium. It enters your home through the ground into cracks, seams, holes, and drains in your foundation. Once it enters your home, it can become trapped and build to dangerously high levels of radon. Radon doesn't just effect homes, it can be a problem in workplaces and schools as well.

If you find that you have high levels of radon in your home ($>4\text{pCi/L}$), there are ways to lower it. The most common way to mitigate radon is a vent pipe system with a fan that pulls radon from under the building and safely vents it outside. In addition to a vent system, sealing cracks in the foundation and other openings will help to lower your radon levels. It is important to retest after mitigation has been done to ensure radon levels are lowered, and test again every 2 years.

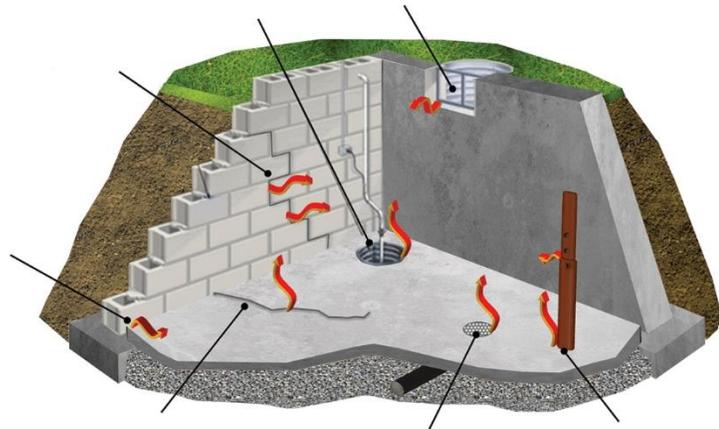
If you are interested in testing your home for radon, Teton County Environmental Health sells short term test kits for \$10. We are located at 460 E. Pearl Ave. The test takes 3-7 days to complete. Once the test is complete, you send it in using the self-mailer that is provided. Results are usually sent about 24 hours after being delivered to the lab.

For questions regarding radon tests or mitigation please call Brody Wallace at 307-732-8499

[Click here](#) for more information about radon in Wyoming

[Click here](#) for more general information about radon

[Click here](#) for an informational video about radon



EPA Map of Radon Zones

