



Serving Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet & Otsego Counties

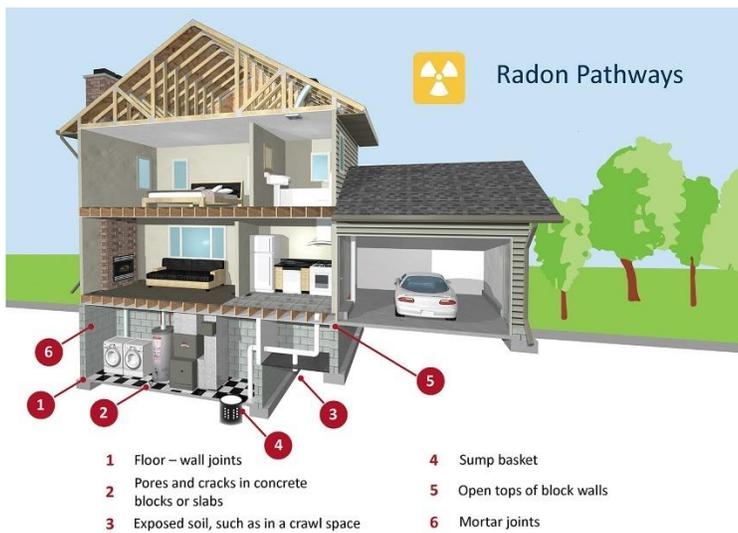
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“Give a Can, Get a Kit” Radon Testing Offered in January

January is National Radon Action Month; have you tested your home in the last two years?

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan wants to remind community members that regular testing for radon (every two years) in your home, office, and school is an important way to protect your health. This January, participate in our “give a can, get a kit” event where bringing in a non-perishable item to be donated to a local food pantry will get you a free radon test kit.



Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer, behind smoking. Because you can't see, smell or taste radon, the only way to know if you have elevated levels is by doing a test. Testing every two years is suggested as homes settle and slight cracks in the foundation of a home can result in changing radon levels. Radon reduction systems can be installed to help reduce radon to acceptable levels.

Elevated levels of radon are present in 7-40% of homes in Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet and Otsego Counties. According to Scott Kendzierski, Director of Environmental Health, “There are no warning signs for radon and the only

Radon Pathways into the Home; Source: www.health.state.mn.us/radon

way to know if there is a risk of exposure is to test. When property owners test for radon, they can identify problems early and take steps to reduce elevated radon levels.”

Kits can be picked up – and non-perishable food items dropped off – at Health Department Offices in Bellaire, Charlevoix, Gaylord, Harbor Springs/Petoskey, and Mancelona Monday-Friday between 8:00AM-12:00PM and 1:00PM-5:00PM until January 31, 2020.

For additional information about radon, visit the Environmental Protection Agency's site (epa.gov/radon). For additional information about radon test kits, please call 1-800-432-4121.

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego counties. For more information, visit nwhealth.org.

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