

Frequently Asked Questions About Radon

1. What is a dangerous or alarming level of radon?

It is recommended for residents to take action if radon concentrations are at or above 4.0 pCi/L. Problems should be fixed by qualified contractors that specialize in radon mitigation.

2. Are there symptoms or other health problems associated with radon gas exposure?

There are no known symptoms of short term radon exposure (levels seen in a home, school, or office). No bodily symptoms such as headaches or rashes are seen at natural environment levels. It would take a long period of time for any symptoms to be seen and even then, these symptoms are the same for smoking-induced lung cancer.

3. Where should the radon test be placed or located?

You should place your test kit in the lowest livable level of your home, usually the basement. Livable is defined as someone being the area for 8 or more hours a week.

4. How does radon enter my home?

Radon is present in the soil and moves up through the dirt and rocks into the air. There are several entry points for radon in your home such as crawl spaces, open tops of block walls, and mortar joints. Other factors like air pressure between your home's interior and exterior soil affect how much radon enters your home.

5. Can radon enter my water?

It is possible for radon to enter your water supply, this is most common in homes with private wells because radon can dissolve and accumulate in water from underground sources (ground water).

6. Do certain areas of Kenosha have higher levels of radon than others?

Certain areas of Kenosha do not have higher levels of radon than others and the presence of radon occurs randomly and does not have a pattern.

7. Does the amount of radon increase with the age of the home?

No. Conducting a test is the only way to know the amount of radon present in the home. Regardless of its age, foundation type, heating system, or building materials, the presence of radon happens randomly.

8. If a radon problem is present, how much does it cost to remedy the situation?

The cost of lowering radon levels in your home depends on how your home was built and the extent of the radon problem. Many homes can be fixed for about the same cost as other common home repairs. We recommend you consult with local radon specialists and obtain an estimate from a qualified contractor.