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Town of Monroe

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Time to Test Your Home for Radon

TOWN OF MONROE, CT (January 9, 2019)

January is National Radon Action Month, and the Monroe Health Department encourages residents to test their homes for radon gas, the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. Health officials estimate that radon is responsible for more than 21,000 lung cancer deaths each year in the United States.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas formed from the natural decay of uranium and is found in rock, soil and water. Although radon in outdoor air poses a relatively low risk to human health, it can enter homes from the surrounding soil and become a health hazard inside buildings.

Radon is an invisible gas that has no smell and people often don't know when this silent killer is in their homes. That is why testing for radon and reducing elevated levels is so important. It saves lives and could potentially save yours and the lives of your loved ones.

Nancy Brault, the Monroe Director of Health, recommends that all Monroe homes be tested for radon. "Testing is recommended in the winter months, and it is simple and inexpensive," said Brault. Furthermore, for a limited time, free test kits are available from the Health Department while supplies last. Kits can also be purchased at a variety of retailers, including local hardware stores.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommends that homes found with high radon levels be corrected by hiring a qualified radon contractor.

To learn more about radon and to obtain a list of qualified radon mitigation contractors, please visit the State Department of Public Health Radon Program web site at www.ct.gov/radon. If you have additional questions or are interested in a free test kit, please contact the Monroe Health Department at (203) 452-2818.

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