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Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



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Dear Resident:

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and California Geological Survey (CGS) are conducting a radon-screening project in selected areas of Los Angeles County. Los Angeles County has rock formations that have been associated with elevated (greater than 4 pCi/L) indoor radon levels. Through this program you can test your home at no cost to you. Free radon test kits will be given away to the first 4000 participants.

The goals of this screening program are:

1. Inform you of the health risks from radon.
2. Give you a way to test for radon in your home at no cost to you.
3. Improve the radon potential map of Southern Los Angeles County.

CDPH is asking for your help by agreeing to test your home for radon.

The test is very simple to do; it does not interfere with your normal household activities, and is in your home less than three days. You just close your windows and doors-to-the-outside for 12 hours prior to starting the test. Place the test kit at least 20 inches above the floor, on the lowest lived-in level, in the room where you spend the most time, and leave it exposed for 48 hours. You can go in and out of your house as you normally would, just don't leave windows or doors open. The instructions will provide more detail about the test and what you need to record (name, address, start date and time, end date and time, etc). The laboratory will send you the results by mail, email, or fax.

CDPH has contracted with Alpha Energy Laboratories to provide this service it is not a business solicitation. Visit our State Government web page for access to the online order form.

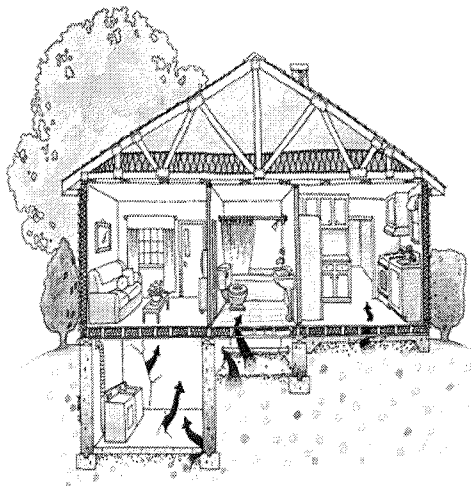
**To participate and receive the free short-term radon test kit go to**  
**<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/healthinfo/environhealth/Pages/Radon.aspx>**

**And click on Los Angeles Radon Screening Program which will link you to**  
**DrHomeair (Alpha Energy Laboratories web page) or call**  
**(Toll Free) Alpha Energy Laboratories (800) 324-5928.**  
**A Free Test Kit will be sent within 48Hr.**

Data that is presented to the public are summarized and cannot be linked to your address so you will remain anonymous.

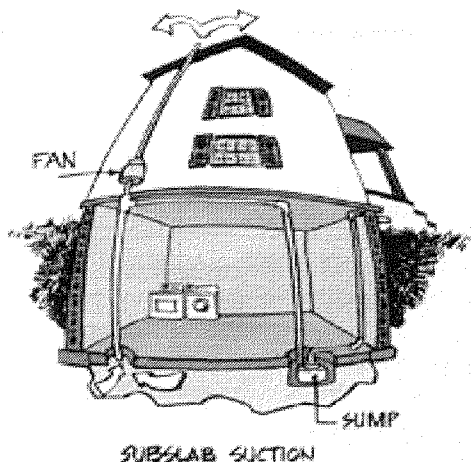
If you have questions about the study contact George Faggella at California Department of Public Health (916) 449-5674 or [George.Faggella@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:George.Faggella@cdph.ca.gov)

Radon is a radioactive gas that comes from the decay of naturally occurring Uranium present in all soils and rocks. Some rock formations have more uranium than others.



Typically, radon moves up through the soil and into your house through cracks in the foundation walls, gaps in floors and gaps around pipes as depicted by the arrows in the drawings. Since you can't see, smell, feel, or taste radon, you need special equipment to test for it.

Radon is measured in picocuries per liter (pCi/L). The average radon concentration outdoors is 0.4 pCi/L and indoors is 1.3 pCi/L. **If you have indoor radon levels of 4 pCi/L or higher, you should perform a second short-term test to verify the first.** If the results are still above 4 pCi/L, CDHS and EPA recommend that you take action to reduce radon to acceptable levels.

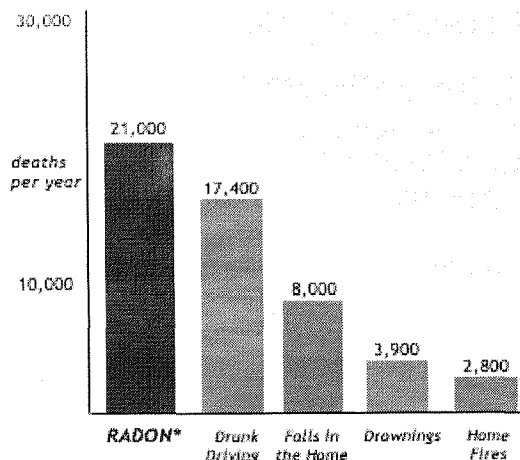


There are very effective and simple systems that will reduce elevated radon levels in your home to acceptable levels. The cost of reducing radon levels in your home depends on a variety of factors, but most homes can be fixed for about the same amount (\$2,500 - \$5,000) as other household repairs such as painting.

If you are handy you can even do it yourself and save money!

California requires individuals providing radon services to be certified by the National Radon Safety Board (NRSB) or the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). A list of certified testers and mitigators is available at: [www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/environhealth/Pages/RadonServiceProviders.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/environhealth/Pages/RadonServiceProviders.aspx)

**If they are not listed on our web site they are not certified.**



Nationally, radon is estimated to cause more deaths per year than drunk driving according to EPA's 2003 Assessment of Risks from Radon in Homes (EPA 402-R-03-003). Lung cancer risk estimates are based on lifetime (74.5 yrs) exposures to radon.

**The only way radon can harm you is to ignore it.**

**If you have it,  
fix it and forget it.  
Please test!**