

INTERPRETING YOUR SHORT TERM RADON TEST RESULTS

The kit you received from the Health Department is a short-term radon test kit used to screen your home for high radon levels. Actions that should be taken once you know your homes radon level depend on the level detected by this short-term, activated charcoal, test kit.

Short-term Test Result of Less than 4.0 pCi/L

If you are certain that the instructions for testing that are included with the test kit were followed exactly, no further action is necessary unless you remodel or make changes in the way you use your home. If you did not test your basement and you convert your basement into living space, the basement should be tested. For this reason you may want to test again sometime in the future, if your test result is below 4 pCi/L

Short-term Test Result of Between 4.0 and 8.0 pCi/L

Because the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) action level of 4.0 pCi/L is based on an annual exposure (365 days) and not just 2 days, you should retest your home using an Alpha Track Detector if your short-term results are between 4.0 and 8.0 pCi/L. The short-term test tells you what your radon exposure is when your house is closed up. In the summer, many people have the windows open which generally makes indoor radon levels lower. With a closed house level of 8 pCi/L or less, it is possible that your year around average may be less than 4 pCi/L if you usually have your windows open on nice days. Using an alpha track detector to test your house for one year (365 days) will allow you to determine your annual exposure. If your result is between 4.0 and 8.0 our Health Department will send you a **FREE** alpha track kit. If your Alpha Track Detector result is 4 pCi/L or higher, then take *corrective action.

Short-term Test Result of Greater than 8.0 pCi/L

If your short-term test result is greater than 8.0 pCi/L, repeat the test in the same location with a second short-term test kit. Our Health Department will send you another **FREE** short term kit. If the result of the second short term kit results in an average over 8.0 pCi/L, then take *corrective action

***Corrective Action**

Corrective Action involves installation of a radon mitigation system. It is highly recommended that you have a National Environmental Health Association/National Radon Safety Board (NEHA/NRPP) Certified Mitigator install the radon system for you. A list of Certified Radon Mitigators can be found at www.lowradon.org. The cost of a radon mitigation system can vary from \$500 to \$2500.

Real Estate Sales often require that radon measurements be completed by an individual certified in radon measurement. A list of certified radon measurement providers can be found at www.lowradon.org.

If you have questions regarding your test result or the installation of a radon system, you can call Margaret Anderson, Environmental Health Specialist at the Ozaukee/Washington County Radon Information Center, Washington County Health Department (toll free) 1-888-LOWRADON (1-888-569-7236). Information about radon can also be found on the following websites: www.co.washington.wi.us/chn, www.lowradon.org or <http://epa.gov/iaq/radon/pubs/>.