

NEVADA RADON REPORT



University of Nevada
Cooperative Extension

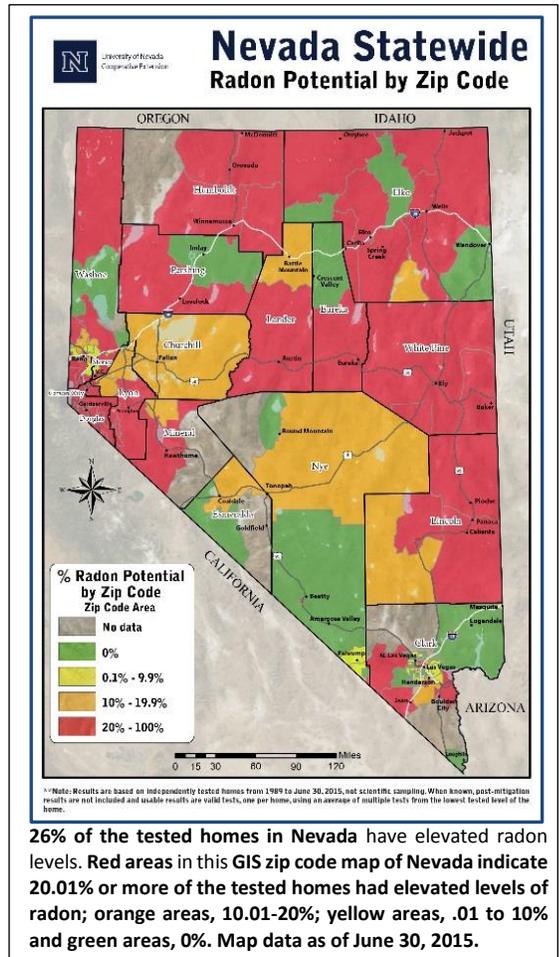
A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROGRAM THROUGH THE NEVADA DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Nevada Radon Education Program

1 in 4 Nevada homes has Elevated Radon Levels

The only way Nevadans know about radon and how to protect themselves against lung cancer caused by radon is through education, as Nevada lacks any protective statutes or regulations concerning radon.

- Since 2008, **University of Nevada Cooperative Extension**, through a sub-grant from **Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health**, educates Nevadans about the radon health risk, how to test for and fix radon problems, and distributes low-cost radon test kits to residents.
- The **2016-2020 Nevada State Cancer Plan** addresses the prevention of lung cancer with a radon goal, objectives and activities toward increasing the number of homes tested, the number of homes mitigated, and the number of homes built using radon-resistant new construction techniques.
- Testing is the first step toward preventing radon-caused lung cancer deaths, and it is the only way to know if a home has elevated levels of radon. The Nevada program **distributed more than 42,616 test kits and 22,618 (or 53%) were used.**
 - **With more than 17,621 valid test results (from 1989 to 12/31/15), at least 21,453 Nevada homes were tested**
 - **With initial testing, 4,637 (or 26%) of tested homes have elevated radon levels**
 - **At least 866 or 19.5% of 4,445 homes with confirmed elevated radon levels have been mitigated**
 - **At least 1,434 homes were tested for radon when buying a home.**
 - **Highest radon level found in Nevada is 195 pCi/l**
 - **Average radon level is 3.67 pCi/l**
- Nevada Radon Education Program partners include: **American Lung Association, Nevada Comprehensive Cancer Control, Nevada Cancer Coalition, Renown Health and Nevada Nurses Association**
- Elevated radon levels can occur in school buildings
 - **At least 60 school buildings were tested in Nevada.**
 - **At least 16 school buildings are mitigated.**
- The Nevada radon website, www.RadonNV.com, was instituted in November 2009. As of June 30, 2016, the site has:
 - **305,323 website visitors**
 - **277,701 web pages viewed**
 - **1,173,053 website hits**
 - **333,869 web pages downloaded**



- **The State Indoor Radon Grant (SIRG) is the only funding source for activities to promote radon awareness in Nevada. Cooperative Extension provides more than 40% match with non-federal funds, and 100% of the match is in-kind or soft match.** Activities that the Nevada program offers for increased radon education and awareness include:
 - Providing free radon test kits from Dec. 1 to Feb. 28, the ideal time to test for radon
 - Presentations made to schools, civic and community groups, homeowner associations, realtors, builders and the general public
 - Participation in health fairs, company wellness events and home shows to promote testing with free radon test kits and informational items
 - Providing continuing education credits to Realtors, builders and medical groups
 - Distributing informational flyers and posters advertising the radon health risk, upcoming presentations and free test kits
 - News releases sent to local newspaper, radio, TV and magazine outlets, and mail-outs and email information sent to youth groups, community organizations, schools and HOAs about upcoming programs, free test kit availability, the radon hot line and the website
 - A toll-free radon hotline, **1-888-Radon10**, available as a resource for questions and further education
 - Use of a Facebook page to post program presentation dates and locations, the poster contest, and free test kit periods
 - Advertising with Nevada Broadcasters Association in local radio and TV outlets during the free kit period
 - Asking local casinos, businesses and communities to advertise programs and free test kits on their billboards
 - Local communities hanging the radon program's street banner over major thoroughfares
 - Providing news columns and articles to local community group newsletters, as well as homeowner associations and utility bill inserts
 - Requesting and receiving National Radon Action Month proclamations from county and city governments, general improvement districts and the Governor's office.
 - Partnering with other cancer-minded organizations (county and state agencies, radon professionals, libraries, etc.) to post flyers, hand out free test kits or sponsor presentations
 - Providing the Radon in Nevada website, www.RadonNV.com, with educational information, taped television interview programs, radon poster contest information and locations for test kit distribution
 - Placing free radon test kit door tags in neighborhoods with elevated radon
 - Offering the Nevada Radon Poster Contest to youth in schools, youth groups, scouts and 4-H clubs
 - Supporting local businesses offering radon measurement and mitigation services with public information and outreach efforts

For more information about Radon in Nevada

- **Nevada Radiation Control Program**
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 675 Fairview Dr. Ste. 218, Carson City, NV 89701
 775.687.7550
<http://dpbh.nv.gov/Reg/Radon/Radon - Home/>
- **University of Nevada Cooperative Extension**
 4955 Energy Way, Reno, NV 89502
 Susan Howe, Program Director, 775.336.0248, robertss@unce.unr.edu
 Radon Hotline: 888-RADON10 (888.723.6610)
<http://www.RadonNV.com>
Facebook page: Nevada Radon Education