

### Tennessee Radon Fact Sheet

# TENNESSEE RADON PROGRAM

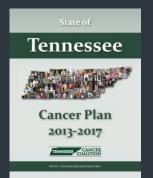
https://www.tn.gov/environment/ program-areas/opsp-policy-andsustainable-practices/communityprograms-and-services/ radon.html

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Tennessee Cancer Control and Research Plan

https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/ tn/health/documents/TN\_Cancer \_Coalition\_State\_Plan\_2013-2017.pdf



The Tennessee Radon Program is operated by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) in the Office of Policy and Sustainable Practices. The Tennessee Radon Program is funded by the EPA State Indoor Radon Grant (SIRG). Tennessee meets the SIRG 40% matching funds requirement. The primary objective of the Tennessee Radon Program is to reduce the number of radon-induced lung cancer deaths in the state. The program aims to provide information to residents so they can make decisions regarding their health and radon exposure. By working with local partners, the seeks to educate citizens about radon risks, the importance of testing, and radon mitigation when appropriate. The program offers a variety of services and assistance to residents, such as test kits for homeowners, and technical information for universities, as well as materials for real estate professionals and information about radon resistant new construction guidance for home builders, building codes officials and home inspectors.

#### **Tennessee Radon Facts:**

- Testing for radon in the home is the only way of knowing if radon is present.
- The lifetime lung cancer mortality risk for radon in indoor air at 4 pCi/L is 62 in 1,000 for smokers and 7 in 1,000 for those who have never smoked.
- Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer among nonsmokers and the 2nd leading cause of lung cancer, second only to cigarette smoking.

#### Cancer Control Plan 2013 - 2017:

Primary Prevention – Objective 1.3 – Reduce the incidence of lung cancer associated with radon gas exposure by reducing the number of homes with radon levels higher than the EPA has deemed safe (4 pCi/L, or higher).

#### Strategies:

- Work in conjunction with the TDEC, to educate homeowners throughout the state on the importance of testing their homes for radon gas levels.
- Promote access to radon testing kits through the Tennessee Radon Program as administered through the Office of Policy and Sustainable Practices.
- Provide a complete listing of certified measurement and mitigation professionals on the Tennessee Cancer Coalition website.
- Advocate to mandate radon testing for all residential real estate transactions in Tennessee.



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## Tennessee Enacted Legislation

#### Tennessee Code § 49-2-121

Encourages local education agencies to implement an IAQ inspection and evaluation program, such as EPA's IAQ Tools for Schools program, which may address ventilation, radon, relative humidity, separation of students and staff from construction, and reduced use of cleaning and maintenance products. Directs the state Department of Education to compile a statewide survey of IAQ in public schools by 2006.

#### Tennessee Code §§ 66-5-201 et seq.

Requires sellers of residential real property containing 1-4 dwelling units to provide purchasers with a residential property disclaimer statement or a disclosure form that discloses knowledge of any environmental hazards on the property, including radon gas, asbestos, and lead-based paint.