

West Virginia Radon Fact Sheet

WEST VIRGINIA RADON AWARENESS PROGRAM

<http://www.wvdhhr.org/rtia/radon.asp>

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West Virginia Department of

Health and Human

Resources

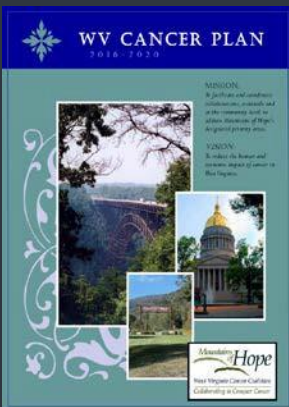
Bureau for Public Health

Office of Environmental

Health Services

350 Capitol Street, Rm 313

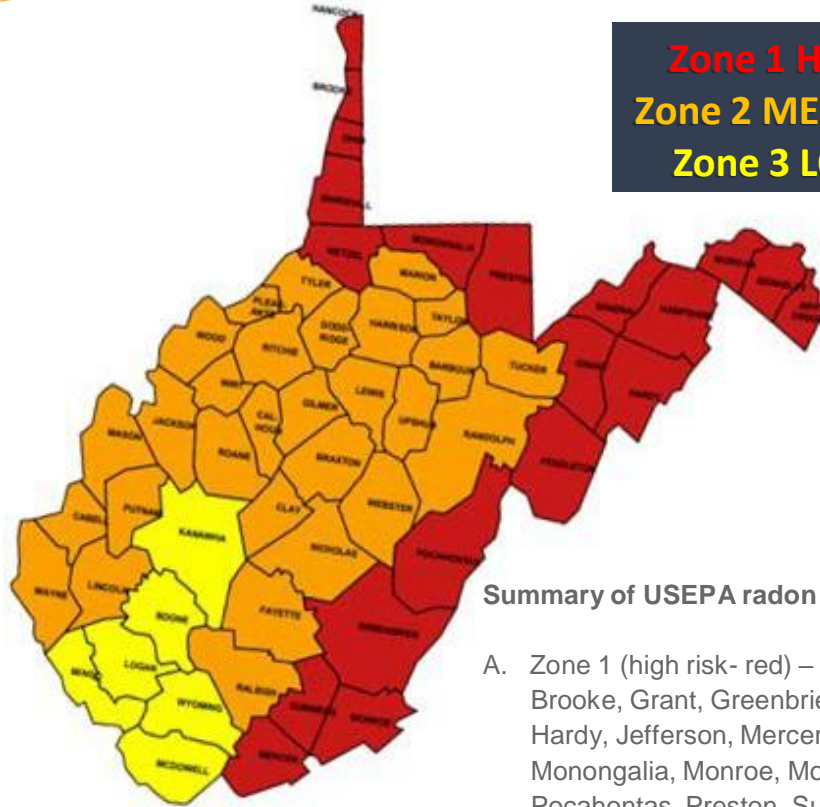
Charleston, WV 25301



West Virginia Cancer Control Plan

<http://dhhr.wv.gov/hpcd/FocusAreas/wvcancer/Documents/WV%20CANCER%20PLAN%202016-2020%20FINAL.pdf>

Zone 1 HIGH POTENTIAL
Zone 2 MEDIUM POTENTIAL
Zone 3 LOW POTENTIAL



Summary of USEPA radon risk zones in West Virginia:

- A. Zone 1 (high risk- red) – 20 counties: Berkeley, Brooke, Grant, Greenbrier, Hampshire, Hancock, Hardy, Jefferson, Mercer, Marshall, Mineral, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Ohio, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Preston, Summers and Wetzel.
- B. Zone 2 (moderate risk- orange) – 29 counties: Barbour, Braxton, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Harrison, Jackson, Lewis, Lincoln, Marion, Mason, Nicholas, Pleasant, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Roane, Taylor, Tucker, Tyler, Upshur, Wayne, Webster, Wirt and Wood.
- C. Zone 3 (low risk- yellow) – 6 counties: Kanawha, Boone, Logan, Wyoming, Mingo and McDowell.

The West Virginia Indoor Radon Program is a resource available to residents who are concerned about exposure to radon gas. Our office has a publicly available list of licensed radon testers, laboratories, mitigation specialists, and contractors. Our program, through grant funding, provides a cost-effective way to educate home-owners on the hazards or radon gas and encourages them to test. Home-owners can obtain a free test kit with the manufacturer's instructions and educational outreach publications. Program specific employees, answer questions they are asked about radon, by members of the public; they also, trains school personnel on how to properly track and administer the test kits in accordance with program QA/QC standards, and kit manufacturer specifications. The Indoor Radon Program also ensures that West Virginia legislative Code requirements and agency administrative regulations for radon testers, mitigators, contractors, and laboratories are being met.

West Virginia provides sub-grantee funding to three local county health departments, Berkeley, Grant and Mineral counties, which are located in Zone 1. West Virginia contributes a 40% match of SIRG funds received; there is no in-kind matching.

West Virginia Enacted Legislation

W. Va. Code §18-9E-2 and 3(b)(c) Air quality in new schools says, in an effort to create well-ventilated school environments, any new public-school building for which construction began after July 1, 1998, shall perform radon testing in the school within the first year of occupancy and at least every five years thereafter.

W. Va. Code §16-34-1 et seq. Licensure of Radon Mitigators, Testers, Contractors, and Laboratories, provides definitions, license require and exceptions to licensure, the Powers and Duties of the Director, how to handle complaints, and allowances for licensure reciprocity.

W. Va. Code R. §64-78-1 et seq. Radon Licensure Rule, provides the interpretive rules to administer the West Virginia Code pertaining to radon licensure. For example: Paragraph 5.1.c.2 requires that all radon professionals (testers and mitigation specialists) must pass the examination recommended by the United States Environmental Protection Agency i.e., applicants must be certified by either the National Radon Safety Board (www.nrsb.org) or the National Radon Proficiency Program (www.nrpp.info) and that their work must meet stipulated EPA and ASTM standards.

Licensed radon testers may only use licensed radon laboratories to analyze samples for the presence and concentration of radon. Licensed radon laboratories Report all State radon test results in picocuries per liter (pCi/L) to the director at least quarterly, by city, street, and zip code and they must maintain radon test results for a minimum of three years.

Cancer Control Plan (2016-2020)

GOAL: Minimize exposure to known environmental and occupational carcinogens.

Objectives:

- 7.1 Increase the number of radon test kits provided to the public each year.
- 7.2 Educate the Public annually on environmental and/or occupational carcinogens.
- 7.3 Increase the number of counties adopting a Radon Resistant New Construction building code enforcement ordinance, as found in the International Residence Code (IRC) Appendix F, from two counties to ten.
- 7.4 Increase the number of birthing facilities providing radon outreach materials in newborn care packets from zero to twenty-seven (27).

Visit, <https://dhhr.wv.gov/hpcd/FocusAreas/wvcancer/Pages/default.aspx> for more information.

Most Significant Needs

1. A full-time Radon Program staff personnel that is NRSB/NRPP Certified.
2. Support for the incorporation of RRNC in to building codes.