



# Region 5 Radon Stakeholder Meeting

EPA HQ Program Update

Peggy Bagnoli

July 9, 2024



# EPA Radon Program Focus



## Today's Topics

### Partner to Maximize Impacts

- National Radon Action Plan
- State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants

### Establish Standards of Practice

- Proposed Credentialing Criteria

### Build in Radon Risk Reduction

- Building Codes

### Quantify Impact

- Cost Benefit Analysis

### **Bold Aspirational Goal**

- Protect 8 million buildings by 2025.
- Prevent 3,500 lung cancer deaths per year.
- Save one-quarter of a million lives in those buildings over time.

### **Areas of Focus**

- ALL building types – homes, schools & workplaces.
- Underserved populations (e.g., tenants, low income).

### **Leadership Council**

- Strong coalition of trusted partners that can rapidly address emerging needs.
- Increase in number of states participating.

## Highlights of Progress To-Date

1

### Build in Risk Reduction

- FHFA radon policy
- New policies adopted to protect tenants in CO, IL and Montgomery County, MD
- Building national tenant protections strategy

2

### Support Risk Reduction

- HUD awarded \$14 million to public housing agencies for radon testing.

3

### Support Professional Radon Services

- EPA released proposed Radon Credentialing Criteria (March 2023)
- Increased number of states, labs, and tribes submitting *quality* radon data to CDC EPHTN.

4

### Increase Awareness & Visibility

- Hosted three webinars focused on testing in schools, real estate professionals, and importance of the state Comprehensive Cancer Control Plans.

### FY2023

- Funding appropriated at \$10.995M
- 7 new Tribal grants awarded
- CDC request for collecting radon data

### FY2024

1. \$9.13M appropriated by Congress
- Regions established Tribal set aside
  - 2024 SIRG Annual Reports due 11/1/24

# Proposed Credentialing Criteria



## Overview

- A radon professional's job is complex, technical, and multi-disciplinary.
  - Credentials identify professionals who possess the necessary competencies to perform a job.
- EPA has statutory authority to ensure professional proficiency. This includes:
  - Oversight of credentialing practices.
  - Providing a national radon reference through EPA's National Air and Radiation Lab.
  - Supporting development of and access to voluntary consensus standards (VCS).
  - EPA has never had authority to require actions on the part of industry or state/tribal governments.
- Primary Intent: Outline a quality standard for credentialing and align credentialing practices through a right-sized process for the radon community.
  - 2017 & 2023 Public Comment Periods

- The EPA will continue to work with other radon advocates to present common sense code changes and work toward consensus.
- Entering new three-year code cycle.
  - Majority of work will occur in years 2 and 3.
- Identifying what to propose to increase chances of getting into main IRC codes.

# Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA)



## Status Update

- Incorporated most recent PUMA (2022) analysis.
- Currently in final stages of Agency Review.

## Results

- Radon interventions are simple and effective.
- State and Local agencies can use CBA findings to inform resource investments.
- Programs with limited budgets can still make substantial health impacts.
- Radon intervention compares favorably with smoking cessation (ROI of \$0.86–\$2.52).





## Peggy Bagnoli

Bagnoli.Peggy@epa.gov

202-343-9398

## Resources

- [National Radon Action Plan Progress](#)
- [Strategies for Protecting Tenants Webinar](#)
- [CRCPD State Radon Requirements in Multifamily Housing Webinar](#)
- [State Multi-Family Radon Measurement Requirements \(National Radon Program Services Website – \[sosradon.org\]\(http://sosradon.org\)\)](#)
- [State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants \(SIRG\) Program and Resources](#)

●●●●●●●●●●

# EPA Region 5 Program Update



Jeanette Marrero

July 9, 2024

## FY2024

- \$9.13M appropriated by Congress
- Regions established  
Tribal set aside
- 2024 SIRG Annual Reports due 11/1/24

## R5 FY2024

- Allocation : \$1.9 M
- Region 5 established  
Tribal set aside of about 8%.
- IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI and  
Bad River, KBIC, Leech  
Lake and St. Croix will  
receive funding.

# Region 5 SIRG 2023 Results



**Homes Tested: 168,300**

**Homes Mitigated: 42,100**

**Number of Radon Testers: 1,734**

**Number of Radon Mitigators: 573**

2022 Overview of EPA's State & Tribal Indoor Radon Grants Program:

<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-02/2022%20Annual%20SIRG%20Activities%20Report.pdf>

# NRAP|2021-2025 Priority Areas in Region 5



1

## Build in Risk Reduction

- Wisconsin Department of Children and Families requires that all licensed childcare providers in Wisconsin test for radon and mitigate if over 4 pCi/L.

2

## Support Risk Reduction

- In 2024, HUD awarded a total of \$1.2 M at \$600K each to Warren County Housing, IL and Columbiana Metropolitan Housing Authority, OH.

3

## Support Professional Radon Services

- 4 out of our 6 states are submitting *quality* radon data to CDC EPHTN.

4

## Increase Awareness & Visibility

- SIRG grantees are speakers at Conferences, workshops and create and conduct training for many types of audiences.

# National Radon Action Month (NRAM)



- EPA, grantees and NGO partners encouraged Americans to “Test. Fix. Save a Life” as part of NRAM.
- The annual outreach campaign featured a national press release, social media posts, stakeholder engagement messages in English and in Spanish, new infographics and targeted outreach by EPA Regional programs.

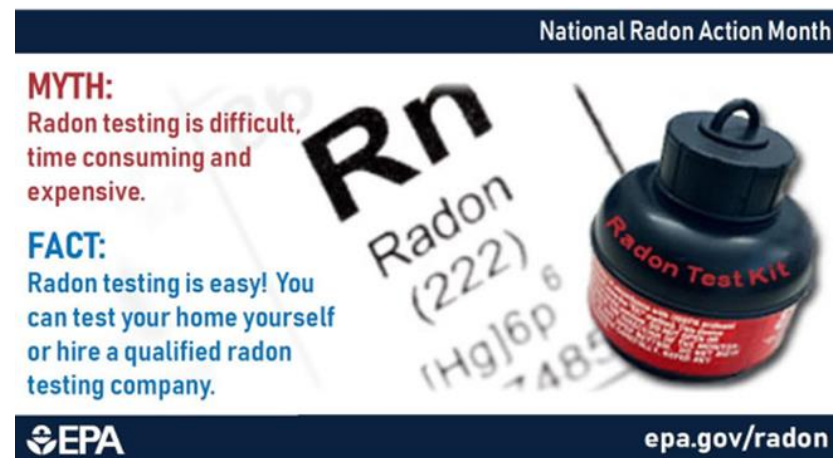
# Social Media

Social Media can be a great way to not only reach your audience, but also encourage others to spread your message:

- Use hashtags like:
  - #Radon
  - #National Radon Action Month
- Use graphics to catch more attention
- Engage with your audiences in the comments
- Re-tweet trusted accounts like @EPA or @EPAair:



facebook

A graphic for National Radon Action Month. It features a dark blue header with the text "National Radon Action Month". Below the header, there is a "MYTH:" section in red text stating "Radon testing is difficult, time consuming and expensive." and a "FACT:" section in blue text stating "Radon testing is easy! You can test your home yourself or hire a qualified radon testing company." To the right of the text is an image of a black and red radon test kit. The background of the graphic shows a blurred image of a radon test kit with the text "Rn Radon (222) (Hg)6p 7485" overlaid. At the bottom left is the EPA logo and at the bottom right is the URL "epa.gov/radon".



# Region 5 Contacts

---

Jeanette Marrero  
[marrero.jeanette@epa.gov](mailto:marrero.jeanette@epa.gov)  
312-886-6543

Juan Morales  
[morales.juan@epa.gov](mailto:morales.juan@epa.gov)  
312-886-6036

<https://www.epa.gov/radon>