



# West Windsor Township

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## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES Division of Health

### **Free Radon Test Kits Available to Homeowners February 23, 2024**

West Windsor Township Health Department is pleased to announce a partnership with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to offer a local radon awareness program to promote testing of residential homes. A limited supply of free radon tests kits is available, first come, first serve, through the Health Department to residents of West Windsor, Robbinsville and Hightstown. Residents are encouraged to contact the office at 609-936-8400 to check availability, reserve a kit or request educational materials.

The Health Department is pleased to cooperate with the NJDEP in this program to ensure that all residents are aware of the need to test homes and reduce radon levels where necessary. Testing is the only way to know if you and your family are at risk from radon. If the test indicates a radon problem, radon mitigation systems can be installed at a cost similar to that of other home repairs.

Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally when uranium breaks down in the soil and in rock formations. Small amounts of uranium are found in nearly all soils and rocks. Radon gas moves up through the soil and finds its way into homes through cracks in the foundation and openings around sump pumps, pipes and drains. Although radon will rapidly disperse outdoors, it can become trapped inside the tightly-sealed home.

High radon levels are associated with a greater risk of lung cancer. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer for non-smokers. Overall, radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer resulting in approximately 21,000 deaths in the United States per year. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the NJDEP recommend that action be taken to reduce radon levels if the level in the home is greater than or equal to 4 pCi/L.

There is no truly "safe" level of radon since lung cancer can result from very low exposures to radon; however, the risk decreases as the radon concentration decreases. If your test result is less than 4.0 pCi/L, you may want to discuss with mitigation companies whether the radon level can be brought down still further. In about half of the homes mitigated in New Jersey, radon levels have been brought to less than 1 pCi/L.

For additional information or consultation, please call the West Windsor Health Department at (609)-936-8400 or the NJDEP Radon Section at (800) 648-0394. The following websites provide additional resources: [www.njradon.org](http://www.njradon.org); <http://www.epa.gov/radon/>; and [www.westwindsornj.org](http://www.westwindsornj.org)