Kansas Radon Program Newsletter
Serving individuals certified in radon measurement, mitigation and laboratory services in Kansas.

January 2016

Sharing information of value with all participants. We plan periodic issues, and we welcome your suggestions, questions and requests in order to meet your needs and help us all provide quality radon risk-reduction services to the people of Kansas.

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✓ Radon Mitigation Standards: Deviation
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INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE
How are we doing?

The state has seen an increase in overall testing and more of those tests are being performed by certified contractors.

The certified community is achieving risk reduction by doing about 10,000 radon tests a year as part of a home sale. From Kansas radon database statistics, approximately 33% of houses sold are likely to test high. In contrast, 10% of houses sold are fixed.

Total Kansas Home Sales with Radon Tests and Mitigations

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Homes Sold</td>
<td>34,279</td>
<td>35,893</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Homes Tested</td>
<td>9,443</td>
<td>11,432</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Homes Fixed</td>
<td>3,483</td>
<td>3,924</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of Homes Sold &amp; Fixed</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
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There is tremendous potential for an increase in Radon Resistant New Construction built homes. If RRNC were adopted into building codes in Johnson and Sedgwick counties, the state would see a dramatic improvement in RRNC numbers. Currently, Junction City, Lawrence, Manhattan, Salina, and Topeka have RRNC building codes in place.
INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE: 2014

LESS THAN 1/3 of homes sold were tested.
Many of the homes not tested would likely test high.
Opportunities exist for increased radon risk reduction.

1 in 3 homes would likely test high based on Kansas radon data.
Of the 24,836 homes not tested for radon, we are likely missing 7,451 homes which would test high AND are not tested during sale.

Of the 9,443 homes tested for radon during a home sale, 37% test high and were fixed.
This recent data confirms the 1 in 3 estimate of homes likely to test high shown by the Kansas radon database.
1/3 of homes sold were tested. Many of the homes not tested would likely test high. Opportunities exist for increased radon risk reduction.

1 in 3 homes would likely test high based on Kansas radon data. Of the 24,461 homes not tested for radon, we are likely missing 7,338 homes which would test high AND are not tested during sale.

Of the 11,845 homes tested for radon during a home sale, 34% test high and were fixed. This recent data confirms the 1 in 3 estimate of homes likely to test high shown by the Kansas radon database.
COMPLIANCE with the requirements of the Radon Mitigation Standards (RMS) is MANDATORY. The following considerations should be observed:

**IF**
- **The homeowner** may insist on non-RMS compliant features for cosmetic reasons, such as routing of exhaust pipe, use of downspout or other non-compliant material for exhaust

**OR**
- **If standard techniques** are not working and you want to try a different radon reduction method such as active soil pressurization,

**THEN**
- **Contact** the Kansas Radon Program at Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to obtain permission prior to installation.
- **If KDHE does not provide prior approval**, the deviation could result in a citation.
- **Inform homeowner** that the installation requested will not comply with the radon mitigation standards, and of the potential pitfalls of such an installation.
- **Document the non-compliances** in the client information package (RMS section 18.5).
- **Ensure** with post-mitigation radon testing that radon levels below 4.0 pCi/L have been achieved.

Give us a call at **785-296-1560** or contact us by email at **radon@kdheks.gov** if you are in doubt or have questions about RMS compliance.

**Upcoming Training:**

10th Annual Region 7 Radon Stakeholder Meeting Tuesday March 8, 2016

Lied Lodge and Conference Center
2700 Sylvan Road
Nebraska City, NE 68410

**Meeting Registration:** There is no cost and registration is not required, but space is limited. For planning purposes, we ask that you register for the meeting by **February 23, 2016**, at the following website: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R7_2016radonmeeting](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R7_2016radonmeeting). Separate training scheduled for March 7, 2016 will be announced soon and will have an independent registration.

This meeting has been approved for NRPP, NRSB, Nebraska, Kansas & Iowa continuing education credits. Dress is casual.

**For reservations**, please call the hotel directly at 800-546-5433. Please refer to the “Region 7 Radon Stakeholders’ Meeting” to get the group rate of $103 per night plus 12% tax. Reservations must be made by **February 13, 2016**. The hotel website is [www.liedlodge.org](http://www.liedlodge.org).
Post-Mitigation Testing Requirements

Kansas law adopts, by reference, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Radon Mitigation Standards (RMS). The EPA RMS, section 17.4, states that “upon completion of radon mitigation work, a test of mitigation system effectiveness shall be conducted...”

Certified radon mitigation technicians have the following options for fulfilling this requirement:

- To avoid conflict of interest with the test result, the preferred option is to recommend another certified measurement professional conduct the test.
- If you are measurement certified you can conduct the test, as long as you recommend an independent test, and the client is willing to accept your test.
- You may provide a short-term test kit from a Kansas-certified laboratory to the client and monitor the test kit results online using the kit serial number. Follow up with the client to ensure the kit is used. This option is NOT AVAILABLE AS A POST MITIGATION TEST IN A REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION.

Be sure to include the post-mitigation radon measurement result on your quarterly data submission and in the client information package (RMS section 18.5) you provide to the customer. The Kansas law and EPA RMS are available on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment webpage at http://www.kdheks.gov/radiation/radon.htm.

Kansas Radon Action Month Activities

JANUARY 2016 is both Kansas Radon Action Month (KRAM) (sponsored by the Kansas Radon Program (KRP) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)) and National Radon Action Month (NRAM) (sponsored nationally by the EPA).

The KRP will be airing both television and radio public service messages localized with the state radon hotline and website. The PSA’s are scheduled to air January 15 through March 15, 2016 in association with the Kansas Association of Broadcasters (KAB). These television and radio spots lead to increased interest in residential radon testing by Kansas residents. The KRP produced 2 new radon tv spots (a 30-sec English and a 30-sec Spanish spot) in 2015, which can be viewed at www.kansasradonprogram.org.

The KRP will provide in-person or remote public education by request across Kansas during KRAM. For example, radon professionals who are members of local social groups such as a Rotary Club can request KRP personnel to speak at monthly meetings.

Additionally, KRP personnel will be conducting a round of radon resistant new construction (RRNC) new home evaluations in Salina, Kansas during January. The results of the evaluation will be reported to the public in Spring 2016.

The KRP encourages all Kansas Radon Professionals to include a newspaper column, radio show, newsletter article, or other awareness efforts about radon in January activities. If you would like to have us on a radio call in show or other program please contact Brian Hanson (785.532.4996 or bhanson@ksu.edu).