



## What You Need to Know

# About **RADON**

The Leading Cause Of Lung Cancer In Non-Smokers

## WHAT IS RADON?

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that is not harmful at outdoor levels, but that can build up inside homes. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers and the second-leading cause in smokers. Radon is estimated to cause 20,000 lung cancer deaths each year in the US, making it more deadly than drunk driving, drowning, or home fires. Pitkin County and the City of Aspen have a high potential for having rocks likely to produce radon. Radon levels can vary from home to home, even those that are next door to one another.

## WHAT CAN I DO?

The EPA recommends that everyone have his or her home tested for radon. Pitkin County and the City of Aspen Environmental Health staff will be available to assist people wanting to interpret their test results. Depending on the level found, there are several things that residents can do to lower radon levels, and information will be provided to homeowners who are interested in having remediation work done. For more information, please contact Carla Ostberg with Pitkin County at 920-5438 or Jannette Whitcomb with Aspen at 920-5069.

The City of Aspen and Pitkin County would like all homeowners to test for radon in their homes.

**Residents may stop by City Hall  
[130 S. Galena Street, Aspen]  
during the month of January to pick up a  
FREE RADON TEST KIT.**

## HOW DO I USE MY FREE RADON TEST KIT?

Follow the test kit manufacturer's instructions. If you have specific questions about how to use the test or need help, contact:

- ◆ City of Aspen Environmental Health | 920-5069
- ◆ Pitkin County Environmental Health | 920-5438
- ◆ It is best to test for radon in the winter when doors and windows stay closed. This will give you a better indication of the levels that can accumulate when ventilation is low.
- ◆ Place the radon test in the lowest level of your home where you spend a good deal of time. (Not in a crawlspace or basement if it is only used for storage.)
- ◆ Schedule the duration of the test so that you can place it in the mail on a Monday (this will insure it arrives at the out of state lab before the weekend). If tests kits do not arrive at the lab in a specific number of days from the test start date, results will be void.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RADON VISIT THE LINKS BELOW:

EPA Radon Information [www.epa.gov/radon/pubs/citguide.html](http://www.epa.gov/radon/pubs/citguide.html)

CO State Radon Information [www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm/rad/radon/](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm/rad/radon/)

Not A Resident? Print A Radon Test Kit Coupon [www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm/rad/radon/radcoupon.pdf](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm/rad/radon/radcoupon.pdf)