



# Radon: The only way to know is to test your home

Test your home, know your number, decrease your risk.

# What is Radon

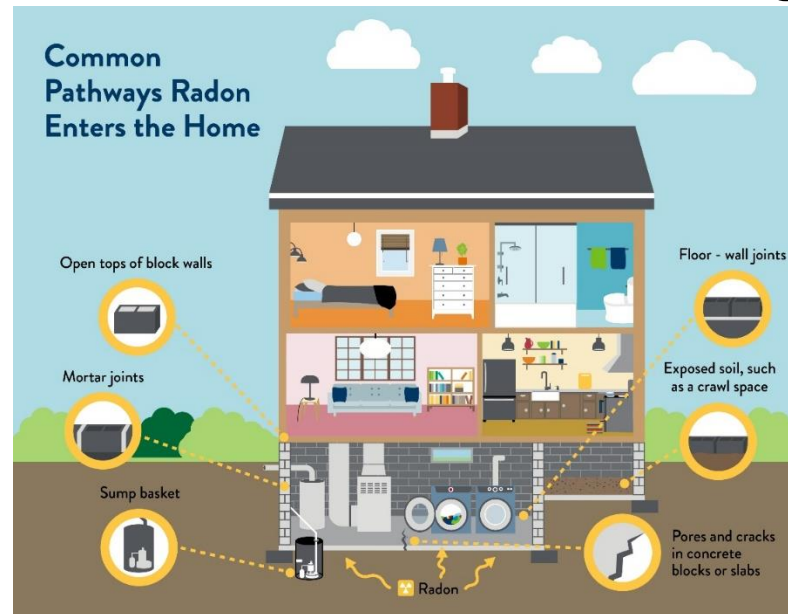
- Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the decay of Uranium found in soil
- Radon is a known carcinogen
- Radon causes lung cancer
- Radon is present everywhere but to what degree?

The periodic table shows the following elements in the noble gas group (Group 18):

Atomic Number	Element
2	He (Helium)
10	Ne (Neon)
18	Ar (Argon)
36	Kr (Krypton)
54	Xe (Xenon)
86	Rn (Radon)

# Radon induced Lung Cancer

- Radon is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of lung cancer
- Cracks in foundation or inadequate ventilation can allow radon to accumulate in a home or building
- Higher concentrations closer to the soil
  - This is why you want to test the lowest **living** space of the home.
- Well Water\*



# Action Level

- The EPA has set an action level of 4pCi/L
  - If your results are below 4pCi/L testing again every 2 years is recommended
- Results over 4pCi/L recommend taking action to lower the level of radon present in the home.
- One pCi is one trillionth of a Curie, 0.037 disintegrations per second, or 2.22 disintegrations per minute. Therefore, at 4 pCi/L (picocuries per liter, the EPA's recommended action level), there will be approximately 12,672 radioactive disintegrations in one liter of air during a 24-hour period.



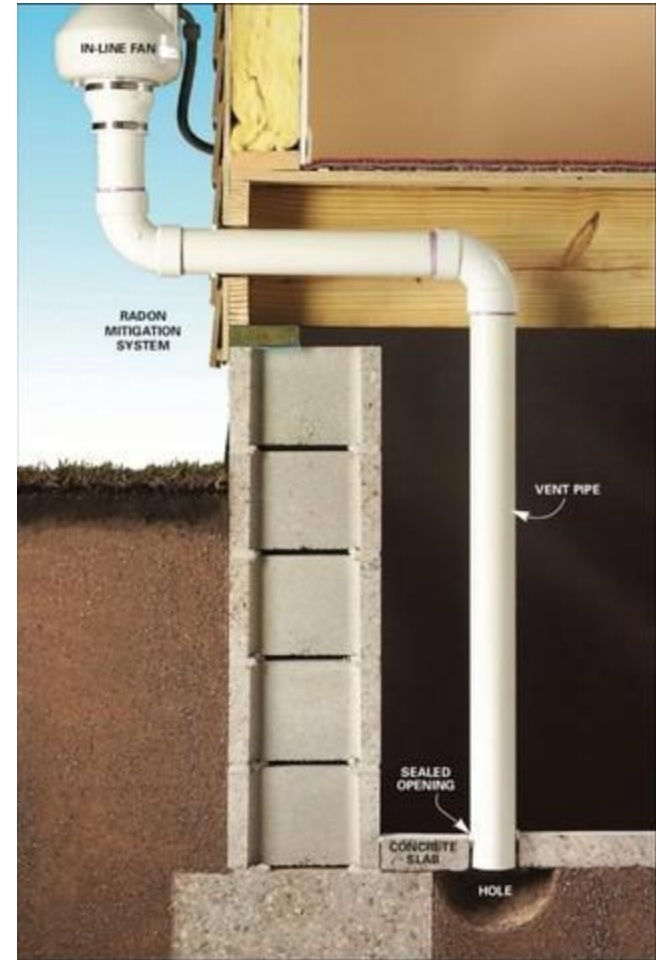
# Tennessee and Radon

- Higher than recommended (4pCi/L) levels of radon have been found in every county in Tennessee
- TN has higher than the national average of radon
- More concentrated levels in East TN
  - Why are levels typically higher in East TN?



# Radon Mitigation

- Radon is a fixable problem
- TN does not currently require radon specific certification for radon professionals
- 1 in 5 homes elevated in TN
- National Radon Proficiency Program
  - <https://nrpp.info/pro-search/>
- National Radon Safety Board
  - <https://nrsb.org/find-a-pro/>





# Get a Free Test Kit

- Visit our website at [radon.tn.gov](https://radon.tn.gov) to get your free radon test kit



# Other questions

[Lexi.Brown@tn.gov](mailto:Lexi.Brown@tn.gov)

615-785-3289

1-800-232-1139