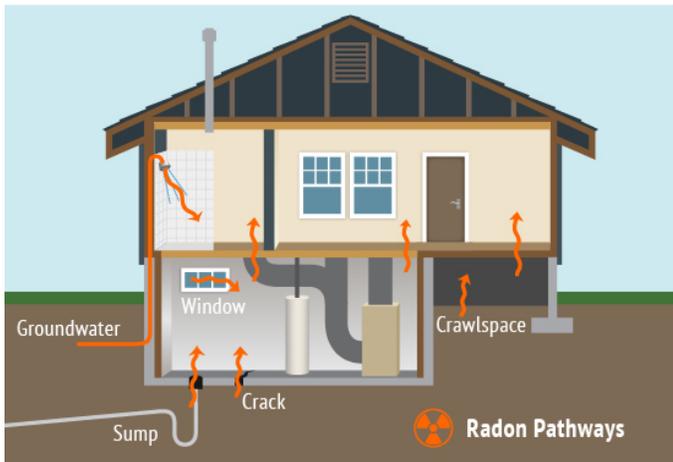


For Immediate Release
December 29, 2020

“Give a Can, Get a Kit” Radon Testing Offered in January

January is National Radon Action Month; have you tested your home in the last two years?

The Benzie Leelanau District Health Department is excited to bring back “Give a Can, Get a Kit” campaign where we ask for nonperishables in exchanged for Radon testing kit. Last year, we were able to provide the donations to three different food pantries in the community and we are hoping to contribute to our community again this year. Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department wants to remind community members that regular testing for radon (every two years) in your home, office, and school is an important way to safeguard your health.



Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer, behind smoking. There are no physical signs that will let you know radon is present in your home. There is no discoloration or visible traces of radon on the foundation. You cannot smell or taste radon, the only way to know if you have elevated levels is by doing a test. Testing every two years is recommended as homes settle and slight cracks in the foundation of a home can result in changing radon levels. Elevated radon levels can be reduced by installing radon reduction systems to help reduce radon to acceptable levels.

Most homes contain some concentration of radon and should be tested. About 12% of homes in Michigan have unsafe levels of radon. In some counties, as many as 45% of homes are at risk. With testing, radon is easy to detect and remove from your home.

For additional information about radon, visit the Environmental Protection Agency’s site (epa.gov/radon). For additional information about radon test kits, please call 1-800-432-4121.

“Last year was successful with several boxes of nonperishables being donated to local food pantries and we hope to continue this every year,” stated Eric Johnston, Environmental Health Director. “Our communities are amazing and are always willing to assist each other. We are happy to be able to contribute to make our counties healthier by giving away free radon kits during the month of January. Be sure to test your home for radon this year and keep your family safe from unseen hazards.”



Kits can be picked up and non-perishable food items dropped off at Health Department Offices in Benzonia and Lake Leelanau Monday-Friday between 8:00AM-12:00PM and 1:00PM- 4:30PM until January 31, 2021.

Media Contact:
Rachel Pomeroy, PIO
231-882-6085
rpomeroy@bldhd.org

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