

## Radon FAQ

### **What is radon?**

It is a cancer-causing radioactive gas. You can't see, smell or taste it, but it could still be a problem in your home.

### **Why should I test for radon?**

Indoor radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. Breathing it over prolonged periods can pose a significant health risk.

### **Where can I get a radon test kit?**

Short-term test kits are available at the Florence County Health Department for \$10 each. Long-term test kits can be obtained by calling the Wisconsin North-Central Region Radon Information Center at the Marathon County Health Department by calling 715-261-1900.

This brochure contains highlights from the guidance for radon testing in real estate transactions, given in the US EPA's November 2006 publication, [Home Buyer's and Seller's Guide to Radon \(link is external\)](#).

### **Florence County Health Department**

PO Box 410  
501 Lake Avenue  
Florence, WI 54121

**Phone: 715-528-4837**



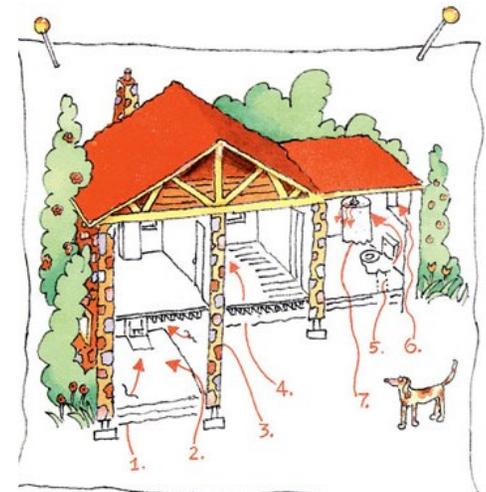
**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Florence County  
Health Department**

Radon: Home Seller's and Buyer's Guide  
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# Radon

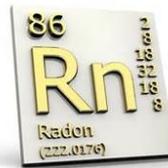
## Home Buyer's and Seller's Guide



Florence County Health Department  
**715-528-4837**

# Guidelines for Testing Your Home Prior to Selling

- There are three options to obtain the most accurate data:
  1. Use two passive radon detectors simultaneously, four inches apart.
  2. Do two tests sequentially
  3. Use one electronic radon monitor recording fresh data every hour.
- The minimum measurement duration is 48 hours.
- Maintain closed-house conditions on all floors during the test, and for 12 hours before it if the test lasts less than four days.
- Do not conduct tests lasting less than four days during severe storms or periods of high winds
- Don't test in a bathroom, kitchen or laundry room.
- Place at least 20" above the floor, away from windows, doors, outside walls, heat sources, humidity and breezes.
- Test in the lowest level of the home which is suitable for occupancy and finished that a buyer could use for living space without renovations.



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## What does EPA recommend?

- If you are buying a home or selling your home, have it tested for radon.
- For a new home, ask if radon-resistant construction features were used and if the home has been tested.
- Fix the home if the radon level is 4 picocuries per liter, or pCi/L, or higher.
- Radon levels less than 4 pCi/L still pose a risk, and in many cases, may be reduced.
- Take steps to prevent device interference when conducting a radon test.