

Why regulate radon?

Radon exposure is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers and the second leading cause of lung cancer in all individuals. Radon is estimated to cause over 21,000 lung cancer deaths per year nationwide. Although lung cancer can be treated, the survival rate is one of the lowest for those with cancer. From the time of diagnosis, between 11 and 15 percent of those afflicted will live beyond five years, depending upon demographic factors. The lifetime lung cancer mortality risk for radon in indoor air at 4 pCi/L is 7 in 1,000 for those who have never smoked and 62 in 1,000 for smokers. Mortality risk for lung cancer increases with higher concentrations of radon gas and increased length of exposure.

What our program does

The Arkansas Department of Health – Radon Program provides educational information and recommendations regarding the measurement and mitigation of radon in Arkansas homes, pursuant to telephone and electronic mail inquiries. The information and recommendations given are in agreement with that of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other nationally recognized entities.

The program also maintains a radon web page on the ADH’s website to make educational information and recommendations readily available. Training opportunities, Frequently Asked Questions, and helpful links are also provided.

The web page address is:

<http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/hsLicensingRegulation/RadiationControl/Pages/Radon.aspx>.

The Arkansas Department of Health does not certify, license, or register individuals to perform radon measurement or radon mitigation. There is no statutory authority to regulate indoor radon or the qualifications of those persons that perform radon services professionally in our State. Exposure to radon is not included in the Arkansas Cancer Plan.

Contact Us

Arkansas Department of Health
Radiation Control Section
4815 West Markham, Slot 30
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
(501) 661-2301

Bernard Bevill, Section Chief
bernard.bevill@arkansas.gov

Angela Minden, Health Physicist
angela.minden@arkansas.gov