

# Rn Radon

## WHAT NEW HAMPSHIRE HOME & BUSINESS OWNERS NEED TO KNOW

What is it?

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What are the **health risks**?

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How and **when to test** for it?

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How **can it be removed**?

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**Rn**  
Radon

## WHAT IS RADON?

**Radon is a tasteless, odorless, colorless, naturally occurring radioactive gas that results from the breakdown of uranium in rocks and soil. Radon is a carcinogen, and can enter a structure through; cracks and seams in foundation floors and walls, openings around floor drains and pipes, sump holes, public and private well water and certain building materials. It can accumulate in the interior air of your home via your plumbing and appliance water.**

There is no safe level of radon...

**Along with ingestion through drinking water, radon particles in the air of your home can attach to the airways of the lungs, posing an increased risk of developing certain types of cancer, primarily those of the lungs and stomach. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer for non-smokers, responsible for 21,000 deaths annually!**

**While elevated levels are found more often in buildings located in the eastern and southeastern portions of the Granite State, excessive levels have been detected in homes in every county. Nearly one out of every 15 homes in the U.S. is estimated to have an elevated radon levels and in New Hampshire that number is one in three!**

## WHEN DOES THE WATER IN YOUR WELL AND HOME NEED TO BE TESTED?

Radon is measured in picocuries per liter (pCi/L) of air or water and testing can be done any time of year. Both state and federal agencies recommend taking steps to lower radon levels when those concentrations in your indoor air quality equal or exceed 4.0 (pCi/L) in the lowest and most commonly used space of a home. Additionally it is also recommended that the water in your home be tested when levels exceed these parameters.

## TESTING FOR RADON?

The NH Department of Environmental Services recommends that both the interior air of all homes and private drinking water wells be tested for radon.

Though “do-it-yourself” kits are available, the safety of your family is too important to go it alone. If you have concerns, consult a professional, like the experienced, certified safe water contractor, Capital Well.

The U.S. Surgeon General recommends that all homes be tested for radon. Testing is the **ONLY** route to determining if your family is at risk from radon exposure.

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency recommends that if your initial air test shows a level of 4 pCi/L or higher, you should confirm the result with a follow-up test. The EPA also recommends having a radon mitigation system installed to lower the radon levels. No federal drinking water standard exists for radon in public water supplies. For private wells, the NHDES recommends that homeowners consider taking steps to lower radon in water if the level exceeds 2,000 pCi/L.

Radon concentrations in well water can vary substantially from one test to another, and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services recommends at least two radon tests, at least one month apart when possible, prior to making any treatment decisions.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION



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## For information on radon and indoor air quality in New Hampshire:

### Environmental Health Program

N.H. Department of Environmental Services PO Box 95  
Concord, NH 03302-0095  
(603) 271-6845 or 271-4764  
dchase@des.state.nh.us  
[www.des.nh.gov/ARD/EHP/Radon/](http://www.des.nh.gov/ARD/EHP/Radon/)

## For additional information on radon:

### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

[www.epa.gov/radon/](http://www.epa.gov/radon/)



## RADON CAN BE REMOVED!

According to the U.S. Surgeon General there is no safe level of radon. Testing is the only way to be sure you and your family are safe. For every 10,000 pCi/L of radon in a home's water supply, the radon concentration in indoor air is increased by 1 pCi/L.

The primary method for radon removal from water is aeration, a process in which oxygen is driven or bubbled into the water which separates the radon gas from the well water with the contaminants being expelled externally from the home.

There are various methods of reducing radon levels in your home. In some cases, sealing cracks in floors and walls may help to reduce radon levels temporarily. For a long-term solution, a radon mitigation system, which removes radon gas from below the foundation or concrete slab before it can enter your home, should be installed.

Radon gas can be removed effectively from drinking water, preferably by using an aeration process. Consult a certified radon contractor to discuss your options when it comes to radon mitigation in your home.

## IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT RADON IN YOUR WELL WATER, CALL CAPITAL WELL TODAY!

In New Hampshire, call Capital Well for radon testing, treatment, removal and mitigation. The water professionals at **Capital Well Clean Water Center** have the mitigation systems and the experience to perform the tasks needed to keep your family and employees safe. Testing is the first step to the removal of this dangerous chemical. Eliminate your worries with a water treatment contractor and keep your water clean, clear, and safe.

**CALL TODAY FOR A CONSULTATION AT, (800) 924-1192.**