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News

Macomb County Executive
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Health Department

For Immediate Release

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Health Department gives free testing kits for Radon Action Month

January is Radon Action Month, and the Macomb County Health Department is encouraging area residents to include radon testing among their resolutions for a healthy new year by giving away free home testing kits.

You can't see, smell or taste radon, but it could be present at a dangerous level in a home. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer among nonsmokers in America and claims the lives of about 21,000 Americans each year. The EPA and the U.S. Surgeon General urge all Americans to protect their health by testing their homes, schools and other buildings for radon.

Radon production occurs naturally in soil and rock. It moves upward through the soil and enters buildings through cracks and openings in the foundation floor or walls. Once it is indoors, radon can accumulate to unhealthy levels. Radon exposure does not cause any symptoms immediately, yet extended exposure to elevated radon levels increases one's risk of lung cancer. Exposure to radon is a preventable health risk, and testing radon levels in your home can help prevent unnecessary exposure. If a high radon level is detected in your home, you can take steps to fix the problem to protect yourself and your family.

Testing should be conducted during the wintertime. Do-it-yourself test kits are available at Health Departments located at 43525 Elizabeth Rd., Mount Clemens, 48043 and 27690 Van Dyke Ave., Warren, 48093. Offices are open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The kits are available to county residents free of charge. No appointment is necessary.

For more information on radon and the free testing kits, call the Macomb County Health Department at (586) 469-5236 or visit health.macombgov.org/Health-Programs-EnvironmentalHealth-RiskAssessment-Radon.

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