

What is Radon?

Radon is a naturally occurring gas formed when uranium in soil, rock, and water breaks down. It is colorless, odorless, and tasteless — making it impossible to detect without special testing.

How Can Radon Be Harmful to Your Health?

Radon is a gas that you can't see, smell, or taste. When you breathe it in, it can break down into tiny radioactive particles. These particles can get stuck in your lungs and hurt the tissue over time. This can lead to lung cancer.

Not everyone who breathes in radon will get lung cancer. But the more radon you're around, and the longer you're exposed, the higher your chances are of getting sick.

SARPY/CASS

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Radon in Nebraska

How to Keep You
and Your Family Safe
from Radon Gas



How Does Radon Get In My Home?

Radon comes from the ground and can get into your home through cracks or small openings in the foundation.

The air pressure inside your home is usually lower than the pressure in the soil around it. This pressure difference can pull radon gas into your home, kind of like a vacuum.

Outside, radon is not usually a problem because it's spread out in the open air. But indoors, radon can build up to higher levels, especially in closed spaces.

How Do I Test For Radon?

Radon is measured in units called picoCuries per liter (pCi/L), which tells how much radioactivity is in the air. The Environmental Protection Agency says you should fix your home if the level is 4.0 pCi/L or higher.

You can test your home with a short-term kit (2 to 7 days) or a long-term kit (over 90 days).

Long-term tests give a better picture because radon levels can change daily and with the seasons.

Can a Radon Problem Be Fixed?

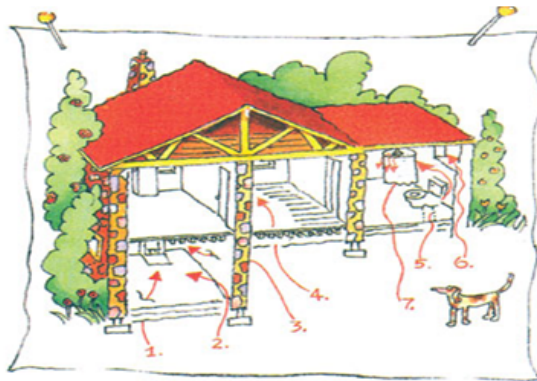
You can do some things yourself to reduce radon, like sealing cracks or letting more air in. But these usually don't fix the problem for good.

The best way to lower radon is to put a fan system under your home. This fan moves radon gas away before it gets inside.

For the best results, it's smart to hire a trained radon expert to install this system.

Go to dhhs.ne.gov/radon to find companies that can test for radon and fix it.

1. Cracks in Solid Floors
2. Construction Joints
3. Cracks in Walls
4. Gaps in Suspended Floors
5. Gaps Around Service Pipes
6. Cavities Inside Walls
7. Water Supply



The average radon concentration of existing homes in Sarpy and Cass Counties is greater than 4.0 pCi/L