

NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

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January is National Radon Action Month

According to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services one in every two homes in Nebraska has an elevated radon level. Fortunately, there are simple solutions to fixing a radon problem in the home.

Radon is a naturally occurring invisible, tasteless, odorless gas. It is harmless when dispersed in outdoor air, but when trapped in buildings, can be harmful at elevated levels. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in smokers, and the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.

Houses next to each other can have very different radon levels. Elevated radon levels are found in new and old houses, well-sealed and drafty houses, houses with or without basements and houses with every kind of furnace. The only way to know if your home has dangerous levels of radon is to test it.

January is National Radon Action Month, and Panhandle Public Health District (PPHD) is raising awareness by asking communities to declare January as Radon Action Month. Several communities have already declared January Radon Action Month including Potter, Harrison, Crawford, and Gordon. Widespread community awareness about the dangers of radon will help keep all communities safer from the risks of lung cancer.

Free radon test kits are available to Panhandle residents by emailing mcervantes@pphd.org, calling PPHD at 308-487-3600 ext 108 or toll free at 866-701-7173 ext 108.

For more information visit www.pphd.org/radon.html. Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety and quality of life for all who live, learn, work and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community.