

For Immediate Release

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Branch Hillsdale-St. Joseph
Community Health Agency

January Is National Radon Action Month. Have You Tested Your Home?

Coldwater, Michigan, January 01, 2008 – January is National Radon Action Month and Governor Jennifer Granholm has issued a proclamation declaring January to be Radon Action Month in Michigan as well.

Radon Action Month serves to remind us of the serious health risk associated with exposure to elevated indoor radon levels. This naturally occurring radioactive gas leaks into homes through openings in the foundation floor or walls, and over time, exposure can result in an increased risk of lung cancer.

Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, and it is believed to be responsible for an estimated 21,000 deaths per year. More than 600 of those are projected to occur in Michigan.

THESE DEATHS ARE PREVENTABLE!

Testing for radon is easy and inexpensive, and elevated radon levels can be reduced.

One in eight Michigan homes would be expected to have an elevated indoor radon level, and in some counties more than 40% of the homes would be expected to have a problem. The only way to know if YOUR home has a problem is to test.

The Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency along with federal, state, local and volunteer agencies are urging Americans to test their homes for radon during National Radon Action Month, and as necessary take action to reduce their exposures.

Get more information, on radon and how to test your home. Contact the environmental health division at your local health department, the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency, at one of our offices.

Three Rivers	269-273-2161
Coldwater	517-279-9561
Hillsdale	517-437-7395

Or, call the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Indoor Radon Program at 1-800-RADON GAS (1-800-723-6642) or 517-335-8037.

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