

RADON EXPOSURE

DEFINITION – Radon is a cancer-causing natural radioactive gas that you can't see, smell, or taste. It is a large component of the natural radiation that humans are exposed to and can pose a serious threat to public health when it accumulates in poorly ventilated residential and occupation settings. According to the USEPA, radon is estimated to cause about 21,000 lung cancer deaths per year, second only to smoking as the leading cause of lung cancer (EPA 402-R-03-003: EPA Assessment, 2003). An estimated 40% of the homes in Pennsylvania are believed to have elevated radon levels (Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, 2009).



MITIGATION ACTIONS FOR RESIDENTS

- ▶ **Testing** – Conduct Radon testing to see if levels are above the safe level of 4 pCi/L established by the [EPA](#).
- ▶ **Remediation** – If Radon levels are above 4 pCi/L, hire a [certified Radon-Reduction Contractor](#) to fix the problem.



MITIGATION ACTIONS FOR MUNICIPALITIES

- ▶ **Adopt the York County Hazard Mitigation Plan** by resolution or develop and implement a municipal hazard mitigation plan. [York County Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
- ▶ **Public Education and Outreach** – Inform residents of the dangers and possibility of [Radon in your municipality](#) through mailings, web page, etc. and encourage testing and abatement.