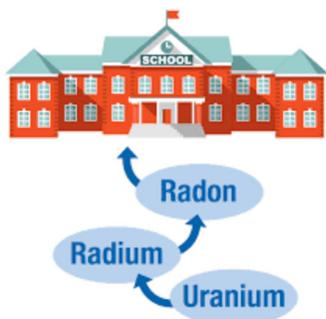


RADON IN YOUR SCHOOL

WHAT SCHOOLS NEED TO KNOW



WHAT IS RADON?

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that occurs in New Hampshire.

WHAT ARE RADON'S HEALTH EFFECTS?

Breathing radon over a long period of time can cause lung cancer.

HOW DOES RADON GET IN

Radon gets into a school from underneath the slab or foundation as part of soil gas.

TESTING A SCHOOL FOR RADON

Radon has no taste, color or odor, so the only way to know if you have radon is to test for it. Schools can start by testing all basement and ground contact rooms that are used on a regular basis. If school facility staff perform the testing, the cost to test 10-20 classrooms can range from \$200 - \$400. The cost for a radon testing professional to test a school can range from \$3,000 - \$5,000.

REDUCING RADON IN A SCHOOL

For schools with HVAC systems, the solution could be as easy as increasing the amount of fresh air in the room or area of the school with high radon levels. If a single classroom or area has high radon levels a radon reduction system known as an "Active Sub-slab Depressurization System" could be the solution.

COST OF RADON REDUCTION

The cost of adjusting an HVAC system could be very low if school facility staff can perform the work. If professional HVAC technicians are required the cost could be much higher. The installation of an "Active Sub-slab Depressurization System" per classroom ranges from \$1,500 to \$2,000.

ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE

The [NH DPHS Radon Program](#) can provide technical assistance to schools that want to test for and reduce high radon levels. Contact us today.

Facts about Radon in New Hampshire Schools

- Radon in the "granite state" is higher than other states
- Breathing radon causes lung cancer
- The EPA estimates 70,000 schools nationally have elevated radon
- Radon mitigators working in NH are required to be nationally certified
- The best time to test a school for radon is during the colder months
- Simple steps can be taken to reduce elevated radon levels in schools