

# All About...Radon



**MJS INSPECTIONS,  
INC.**

**P.O. BOX 1011  
PLAINFIELD, IL  
60544-1011**

**PHONE / TEXT:  
(847) 417-3227**

**E-MAIL:  
mike@mjsinspections.com**

**FAX:  
(815) 327-3482**

**WEBSITE:  
www.mjsinspections.com**

**INSPECTION PRICES:  
Radon Testing: \$200  
(\$175 when combined  
with home inspection)**

## **Radon Causes Lung Cancer! Says Who?**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
World Health Organization  
National Academy of Sciences  
American Lung Association  
U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services  
and many others

### **What is Radon and where does it come from?**

Radon is an odorless, colorless, tasteless, radioactive gas that is found in homes. It comes from the natural breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water and moves up through the ground and into the air that we breathe in the home through the natural pressure differences between the soil and the home. In essence, a home traps radon inside. Radon can also enter the home through well water.

### **What does Radon do?**

Radon is a Class A carcinogen, which means that it is known to cause cancer in humans.

### **Is there Radon in all homes?**

Yes. All homes have some Radon. Regardless whether the home is old, new, large, small, built on a basement, over a crawl space, or on a slab foundation – all homes have Radon. In some homes Radon levels can be elevated to levels that significantly increase the incidence of lung cancer. The only way to know if your home has elevated levels is to test it.

### **What is a "normal" radon level?**

As with all carcinogens, the lower the exposure, the better. The average outdoor radon level is are 0.4 picoCuries per liter (pCi/l). Indoor levels vary, but the average indoor Radon level in the U.S. is 1.3 pCi/l. The EPA and Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety say that levels under or above 2.0 pCi/l are ideal and levels between 2.1 and 3.9 pCi/l are acceptable.

The EPA and IDNS recommend that action be taken to lower Radon levels at 4.0 pCi/l

### **What kinds of homes have Radon?**

All homes have some Radon and all homes have the potential for high radon levels.

New, old, small, large, built on a basement, on a crawlspace, on a slab, large, small, it really doesn't matter. If you live in Illinois, you should be concerned about radon in your home and have it tested.

### **What towns have Radon?**

All towns have the potential for high Radon levels. If you hear "This town doesn't have Radon", you can be sure its' wrong!

### **What can I do if my home has a high Radon level?**

All homes can be fixed. A licensed Radon mitigation professional will be able to advise you on the best course of action for your home.

### **What does it cost to remediate high levels of Radon?**

A typical remediation system costs anywhere between \$1,000 and \$1,500 and takes less than one day to install.

### **Radon Fast Facts:**

- In Illinois, all radon measurement and mitigation personnel must be licensed. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency's (IEMA) Division of Nuclear Safety (DNS) program oversees all radon licensees.
- In Illinois, a seller must disclose any knowledge of radon levels in a home.
- Approximately 37% of northern Illinois homes have high radon levels.

**THE BOTTOM LINE:  
THE ONLY TO KNOW IF  
YOU HAVE A RADON  
PROBLEM IS TO TEST  
FOR IT.**

