

NEWS RELEASE

January 9, 2017
For Immediate Release
Contact: Denise Garey, Health Educator – 308-345-4223

January is Radon Action Month

McCook – Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department is working with the U.S. Environmental Agency (EPA) on a nationwide campaign to educate Americans about the dangers of radon exposure. SWNPHD urges area residents to take action by testing their homes for radon during January.

“Setting a short-term radon test kit is a simple and inexpensive way to know if your home has radon,” explains Denise Garey, Certified Radon Measurement Specialist. “Test kits are \$10 at our office or you can send a \$13 check and we will mail you a kit,” states Garey. In Nebraska, one out of every two homes tested has a high radon level (above 4.0 pCi/L).

Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers. It is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas that enters homes and buildings through the breakdown of uranium in the soil and cannot be detected unless it is tested.

Radon-resistant new construction is a requirement for building in the city of McCook. For more information review our web site at www.swhealth.ne.gov or the Nebraska radon program website at http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/radon_index.aspx.

For more information on radon, testing, and mitigation contact Denise Garey at educate@swhealth.ne.gov or call the McCook office at 308-345-4223. The office is located at 404 West 10th Street, one block north of Arby's. You can follow us on Facebook.com/swnphd and Twitter@swpublichealth. The health department serves Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Frontier, Furnas, Keith, Perkins and Red Willow counties.

###