

## NEWS RELEASE

April 25, 2019  
For Immediate Release  
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### **Radon Test Kits Available**

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. Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department urges area residents to take preventive action against cancer by testing their homes for radon.

“Every building has radon. The only way to know the level of radon in your home is to test,” states Myra Stoney, Health Director. “In Nebraska, 50% of homes tested have a high radon level (above 4.0 picocuries per liter). Many homes have never been tested for radon.”

Less than 99 homes have been tested in Dundy County. The highest result for Dundy County is between 9 and 20 picocuries per liter. SWNPHD has a limited number of test kits available for no charge at the Dundy County Extension office in Benkelman. Homes should be tested every 2 years. Other locations to purchase a test kits include local hardware stores, online or SWNPHD McCook office.

For more information on radon, testing, and mitigation call 308-345-4223. You may also stop at 404 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street McCook, one block north of Arby’s or follow us on Facebook and Twitter. The health department serves Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Frontier, Furnas, Keith, Perkins and Red Willow counties.

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