Local Health Department Contact Name

Local Health Department Contact Phone

**MARYLAND STATE AGENCIES AND [YOUR LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT NAME] URGE RESIDENTS TO TEST FOR RADON EXPOSURE IN THEIR HOMES DURING RADON AWARENESS WEEK IN MARYLAND, JANUARY 21 -27**

*Radon Exposure is Second Leading Cause of Lung Cancer*

**CITY, MD (DATE XX, 2018) -** [LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT NAME] has joined together with Maryland Departments of the Environment, Health, and Housing and Community Development to urge Maryland residents to test their homes for radon exposure during Radon Awareness Week in Maryland. Radon is an invisible, odorless gas found in the earth’s soil that can reach harmful levels when trapped in areas like basements and first floors because of the proximity to the ground. The longer an individual or family are exposed to radon, the greater the risk of developing lung cancer.

Testing homes for elevated levels of radon is simple and inexpensive. Radon test kits can be purchased at local hardware and home improvement stores or directly from radon testing companies. Many are priced under $25.00. Radon problems can be fixed by qualified contractors for a cost similar to that of many common home repairs such as painting or having a new water heater installed.

[QUOTE FROM LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP]

[LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT] urges [COMMUNITY NAME] residents to take action during Maryland Radon Awareness Week (January 21-27, 2018) by testing their homes for radon. Radon poses a serious threat to our community’s health but there is a straightforward solution. For more information on radon, radon testing and mitigation, and radon-resistant new construction, call [LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT NAME] at [LOCAL HEALTH DEPT PHONE #] or visit the Maryland Department of the Environment’s website at [www.mde.maryland.gov/radon](http://www.mde.maryland.gov/radon).

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