Kansas Radon Action Month

Quick 6

1 Radon and Lung Cancer

Radon exposure in homes and other indoor environments is the **leading cause of lung cancer death for non-smokers in the United States**, and the second overall cause of lung cancer death behind tobacco smoking.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that approximately **1 in 4 homes in Kansas** will test **at or above the EPA's radon action level** of 4.0 picocuries of radon per liter of indoor air (pCi/L). The US Surgeon General and the Kansas Radon Program recommends **all homes in Kansas be tested for radon gas**.

2 How Do I Test My Home For Radon?

Radon **test kits** can be obtained from most **Kansas State Research and Extension (KSRE) county offices for a reduced fee**. Radon test kits can also be purchased online via **www.sosradon.org** at retail price. Test kits purchased through your county Extension office or the Kansas Radon Program include the laboratory analysis fee and return postage.

3 I'm Buying a House. How Do I Test for Radon?

It is law in Kansas that all residential real estate contracts include a recommendation that home buyers include a radon test on homes purchased in Kansas. **Kansas law also requires that all radon testing performed during real estate transactions be conducted by radon measurement professionals certified via the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)**.

The list of KDHE-certified radon professionals, both measurement and mitigation, can be obtained at **www.kansasradonprogram.org**.

4 My Home Has Elevated Radon Levels. What Now?

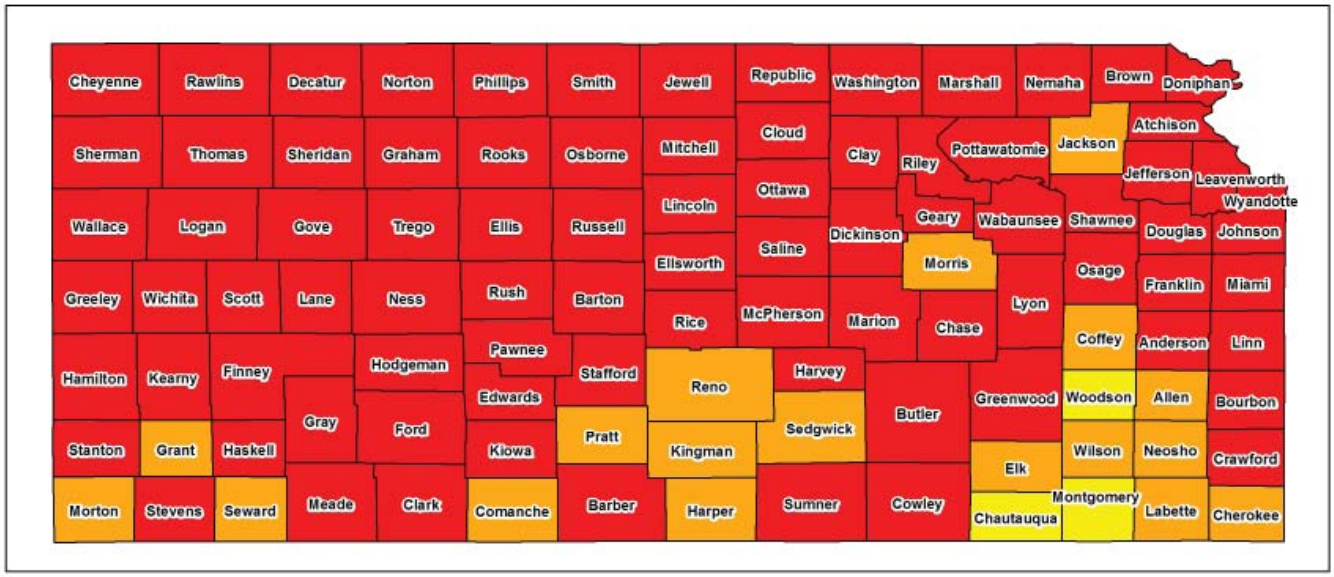
The most common technique used to reduce elevated indoor radon levels in single- and two-family homes is called Active Soil Depressurization (ASD). An ASD radon mitigation system is a permanently installed pipe-and-fan system that places a direct constant vacuum on the soil beneath the house's foundation, constantly reducing the amount of radon under the foundation that can penetrate into the living space of the home.

ASD radon mitigation systems can reliably and easily reduce elevated radon levels in 95% of homes or more. In Kansas, the average starting radon level of homes that have been mitigated is approximately 9.5 pCi/L. The average post-mitigation radon result is 1.3 pCi/L.

5 Current Radon Data for Kansas

Currently, KDHE has collected over 73,000 radon measurements in Kansas. The observed state-wide average indoor radon value for Kansas is 5.1 pCi/L, with over 35,000 measurements reported at or above 4.0 pCi/L. The Kansas Radon Program is in the process of updating the county radon maps for Kansas. Visit **www.kansasradonprogram.org** to view the updates as they become available.

2015 Kansas Radon Average Values by County



RADON

- 0.0 - 1.9 pCi/L
- 2.0 - 3.9 pCi/L
- 4.0 pCi/L or more
- No Data

6 Where Can I Get More Information?

You can call the **Kansas Radon Hotline toll-free at (800) 693-5343** and speak with the Kansas Radon Program. You can also visit us at **www.kansasradonprogram.org**. Our frequently asked questions (FAQ) can be found at **www.kansasradonprogram.org/faq**, and several topic-specific fact sheets can be found at **www.kansasradonprogram.org/factsheets**.