



## *What is Radon?*

Radon is a cancer-causing radioactive gas. You cannot see, smell, or taste radon, but it may be in your home. It comes from the natural decay of uranium that is found in nearly all soils.

## *What are the health effects of Radon?*

Radon is estimated to cause many thousands of deaths each year. When you breathe air containing radon, you increase your risk of getting lung cancer. In fact, the Surgeon General has warned that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States today. If you smoke and your home has high levels, your risk of lung cancer is especially high.

## *You should test for Radon.*



Testing for radon is the only way to know if you and your family are at risk. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Surgeon General recommend testing all schools and homes below the third floor for radon.

Testing for radon is quick and easy, and a free service offered through the LTBB Environmental Services Department.

## *How does Radon get into your Home?*

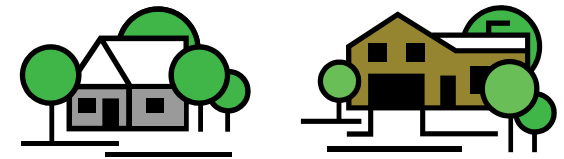
Nearly 1 out of every 15 homes in the U.S. is estimated to have elevated radon levels. While radon problems are more common in some



areas, any home can have a problem. This means homes that are new and old, well-sealed and drafty, and those with or without basements.

Radon typically moves up through the ground to the air above and into your home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Your home traps radon inside, where it can eventually build up.

Radon from soil gas is the main cause of the problem. Sometimes radon can enter the home through well water. In a small number of homes, the building materials can give off radon, too. However, building materials rarely cause radon problems by themselves. The only way to find out about your home is to get it tested.



## *How do you test your Home?*

Testing is easy and should only take a few minutes of your time.

There are two general ways to test for Radon: Short-term and Long-term. A short-term test will give you quick results and stays in your home anywhere from 2 to 90 days. The Long-term test stays in your home for more than 90 days and will give your home's year-round average radon level.

We, the Environmental Services Department offer FREE short-term tests to all Tribal Citizens. Therefore, all test results are left anonymous, your information will be associated with the serial number located on the testing unit. We are notified of the test results and then they are sent to you.

To the right:

A picture of the Atomic Structure of the element Radon.

