

Radon

Radon is a naturally occurring, colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that can get into any type of building, including school buildings.

Health Effects of Radon

- Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers
- Lung cancer risk in children may be almost twice as high as in adults



Radon Entrance Points

- Cracks in solid floors and walls
- Cavities inside walls
- Construction joints
- Exposed soil, as in a sump
- Cracks between poured concrete (slab) and blocks
- Loose fitting pipes
- Water supply



Radon Testing

- Radon levels may be highly variable from one building to the next.
- Radon testing is strongly encouraged, inexpensive, and easy
- Testing is the only way to know if your school has high levels of radon
- Testing should be done every five years, or two years with a mitigation system in place
- Testing should be done during the winter months when levels tend to be higher
- Radon remediation is **recommended** for levels of 4 picocuries/liter (pCi/L) or more and should be considered for radon levels between 2 pCi/L and 4 pCi/L
- Preventive design and construction measures must be taken if a school is constructed in an area with 11% or more of homes with radon estimates above 4 pCi/L
- It is the school district's responsibility to be aware of the geological potential for high levels of radon and to test and mitigate as appropriate. Visit www.wadsworth.org/radon to see state and county maps of long-term living area radon measurements



