

Fairfield Public Schools
Fairfield, CT 06825

TO: Dr. Toni Jones, and Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Thomas P. Cullen

DATE: December 13, 2016

RE: Fairfield Public Schools
Radon Re-Evaluation Testing 2017

I would like to provide you with an informational update regarding the upcoming Radon Re-Evaluation Testing required in 2017 for all Fairfield Public Schools. The attachments to this letter are from our professional consultant's, Certified Industrial Hygienists, Mr. Robert Brown and Mr. Ted Tio, of Hygenix Inc. This is our five-year Radon Re-Evaluation Test per State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health, general Section 10-220(d) statute and guidelines with which all public schools must comply.

It is our intention to perform the testing in January 2017. In order to comply with the two-week time frame for proper notice to the public, schools, administration and board members we will send notices in December 2016. All tests results will be shared with the community via FPS website, schools will receive their school building individual copies for their main offices, and our Maintenance Department and Central Office Administration will retain copies of all school building results (considered the masters) on file.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please feel free to contact me at (203) 255-8373.

Thank you.

c: Meg Brown
Central Office Administrators

Cullen, Thomas

From: Ted Tio <ttio@hygenix.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 2:41 PM
To: Cullen, Thomas
Subject: Radon Meeting
Attachments: Attach C.pdf; Attach A.pdf; Attach B.pdf; 2010-75_Radon_Re-evaluation_in_Public_Schools.pdf

Tom.

Good afternoon. Attached are documents for the radon re-evaluation.

Please have your office forward the attached A, B, C to each schools administration.

Two weeks prior to the scheduled radon testing, the school administration shall notify parents of students and staff with a letter (Attachment A) informing them of the scheduled radon testing accompanied by appropriate radon educational materials (Attachment B).

- Attachment A - Parent & Staff notification letter
- Attachment B – Radon educational materials
- Attachment C - For school administration only – image of radon test kits and warning signs

Regards
Ted Tio

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Cullen, Thomas

From: Ted Tio <ttio@hygenix.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2016 2:58 PM
To: Cullen, Thomas
Subject: Radon testing schedule

Tom.

We are looking to test on the following dates.

I cannot provide an ETA for each school, but 1st school for each group will be 0700am. Approx. time at each school ½ - 1hr.

Ted Tio

- **Group 1 Schools**
 - 1/16/17 Set up
 - 1/19/17 retrieve
- **Group 2 Schools**
 - 1/17/17 Set up
 - 1/20/17 retrieve

Group 1 Schools
Burr School
FLHS
LMS
TMS
Sherman
Mill Hill
Dwight
Holland Hill

Group 2 Schools
AHS
FWHS
Stratfield
North Stratfield
McKinley
FWMS
Osborne
Riverfield
Jennings



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

EHS Circular Letter # 2010-75

TO: Superintendents of Connecticut Public Schools

CC: Directors of Health and Chief Sanitarians
Radon Measurement Professionals

FROM: Francesca Provenzano, M.P.H., C.H.E.S., R.S.
Health Program Supervisor, Radon Program

DATE: November 24, 2010

SUBJECT: Radon Re-evaluation in Public Schools

Per Connecticut General Section 10-220(d) ...“all schools shall be evaluated for radon levels in air prior to January 1, 2008 and every five years thereafter.” As such, all schools tested in 2005 must be re-evaluated this winter. Language regarding radon in water evaluation has been repealed from the statute. Therefore, only testing for radon in air will be performed.

Radon re-evaluation in CT schools shall be conducted using the same protocols, but in a limited number of locations as follows:

- If the initial measurements were all less than 4.0 pCi/L, ten percent of the first floor and below ground areas of the building shall be retested every five (5) years after the initial testing. A different ten percent of the building must be tested every five (5) years thereafter.
- If the initial measurements were at or above 4.0 pCi/L, radon mitigation was required to reduce levels. Mitigated rooms shall be re-evaluated every two and half (2.5) years.

Re-evaluation shall be conducted by qualified radon measurement professionals who hold national certification through the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) or the National Radon Safety Board (NRSB) and must have successfully completed the CT DPH course, *Radon Measurement in CT Schools*. A list of these professionals can be found on the DPH website at: www.ct.gov/dph/radon.

The *School Radon Re-evaluation Form* (attached) shall be filled out by the qualified radon measurement professional and signed by a school designee and then submitted to the DPH Radon Program within ten business days of receipt of the written report.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the program at (860) 509-7367. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

cc: Suzanne Blancaflor, M.S., M.P.H., Chief, Environmental Health Section
Ellen Blaschinski, R.S., M.B.A., Chief, Regulatory Services Branch



410 CAPITOL AVENUE, MS#51RAD

PO BOX 340308, HARTFORD, CT 06134

Bus: 860.509.7367

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Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

ATTACHMENT A

(Date)
(Name of School)
(Street Address)
(Town, State, Zipcode)

Dear Parents and Staff:

The administration of the (insert name of school) would like to provide you with notification that initial radon-in-air testing will be conducted on (insert date). According to Connecticut General Statute 10-220(d), schools are required to inspect and evaluate the indoor air quality of school buildings by 2008. This required inspection and evaluation of indoor air quality includes evaluation of radon in air and water.

(insert radon professional company) will conduct the radon testing. To test for radon in air, small canisters containing charcoal will be placed in each of the occupied rooms that are in contact with the ground. These canisters will be left in place for three school days. You will be informed of radon test results and interpretations as soon as possible. In the event that high radon levels are found, steps will be taken to correct the problem using methods suggested by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Please read the enclosed educational pamphlet describing radon and the school testing program effort. If you have further questions or concerns regarding radon, please feel free to contact the (local health department) at (XXX) XXX-XXXX, or the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Radon Program at (860) 509-7367.

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

_____(Name)

Superintendent of Schools

For More Information Contact:

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
Department of Public Health
Radon Program

RADON
PROGRAM

CT Department of Public Health
Radon Program
410 Capitol Avenue, MS# 51 RAD
PO Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Phone: 860-509-7367

Fax: 860-509-7368

Web: [www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/
EHS/Radon](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/EHS/Radon)

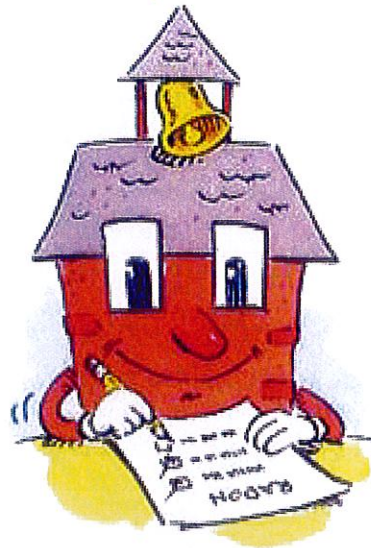


Funded in part through a grant from the EPA.

Adapted from the following publication:
EPA. (1994). *Radon in Schools*, 2nd ed.,
Publication #: EPA-402-F-94-009

Radon In Schools

Every School
Should take
this
Simple Test.



Keeping Connecticut Healthy

www.dph.state.ct.us

What You Should Know About Radon

Chances are you've already heard of radon - a radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer.

The EPA ranks indoor radon among the most serious environmental health problems facing us today. After smoking, it is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States causing an estimated twenty thousand (20,000) lung cancer deaths a year. It is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers.

Radon is a naturally occurring gas that seeps into buildings from the surrounding soil. In some cases, well water may be a source of radon.

Radon exposure increases your risk of lung cancer. Radon gas decays into radioactive particles that can get trapped in your lungs when you breathe. As these particles break down, they release small bursts of energy. These bursts can damage lung tissue and lead to lung cancer over the course of your lifetime. Your risk of getting lung cancer from radon depends mostly on three factors:

1. The level of radon gas in the air you breath;
2. The duration of exposure (how many hours you spend exposed);
3. Your smoking habits.

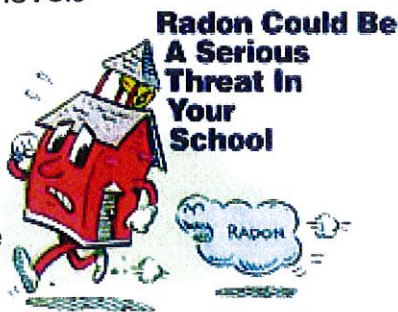
What you might not have heard - high levels of radon have been found in classrooms in a number of schools in Connecticut. Therefore, it is important that students, teachers, and parents are aware that a potential problem could exist in their school. A nationwide survey of radon levels in schools estimates that nearly one in five has at least one schoolroom with a short-term radon level above the action level of 4 pCi/L (picoCuries per liter) - the level at which EPA recommends that schools take action to reduce it.



Radon in Schools

Testing is the Only Way to Know!

Having your school tested for radon is required by law in the State of Connecticut. In fact, the only way to discover if high levels of radon are present is through testing. As real as the threat of radon is, the good news is that the problem can be solved.



How are schools tested for radon?

Testing for radon is simple and relatively inexpensive.

School officials will make sure to:

- Test all frequently occupied rooms on and below the ground level
- Conduct tests in the colder months of the year when school is in session
- Keep all windows shut during testing
- Communicate the results to parents, teachers and students

As Easy as 1-2-3!

Step 1: Initial Testing:

- Take short-term tests

Step 2: Follow-up Testing:

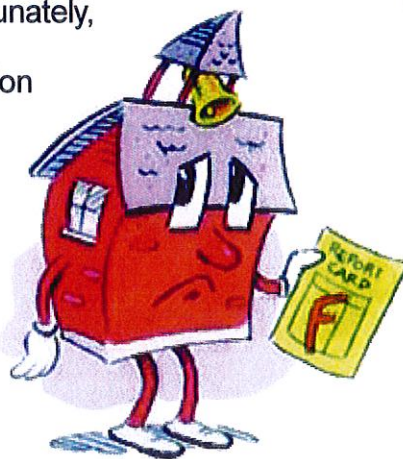
- Take a second short-term test in rooms where the initial level is 4.0 pCi/L or more

Step 3: Take action to reduce levels if:

- The average of the initial and follow-up short-term test is 4.0 pCi/L or more

Four is the magic number...

If radon levels exceed 4.0 pCi/L, action should be taken to reduce radon in your school. Fortunately, even if your school does have high radon levels, the problem can be corrected. Proven techniques are available that reduce radon levels and lower risks of lung cancer.



Radon in Homes

School isn't the only place that you, your children, or teachers can be exposed to radon.

Many people spend more time at home, where high radon levels may pose a much greater threat to their health. Test your home for radon, if you haven't already! The Surgeon General joined the EPA in issuing a national health advisory, urging us all to test our homes for radon.

"Indoor radon gas is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and breathing it over prolonged periods can present a significant health risk to families all over the country. It's important to know that this threat is completely preventable. Radon can be detected with a simple test and fixed through well-established venting techniques."

U.S. Surgeon General, January 2005

Once again, testing is simple and inexpensive. After all, radon is one health problem nobody should have to live with - at home or at school.

In Summary

Radon

- Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas
- Radon usually comes from soils and rock, but can also come from well water
- Breathing in radon increases your risk of lung cancer
- Testing is the only way to find out if radon is a problem

Radon in Schools

- Testing is as easy as 1-2-3
 1. Testing must occur in all occupied spaces at or below ground level
 2. Testing must occur while school is in session
 3. If high levels of radon are found, confirm them
- Radon testing is required in public schools in Connecticut
- When high levels are found, steps will be taken to reduce radon gas in the school
- The CT Department of Public Health can provide guidance documents and information to schools, and the general public

Radon in Your Home

- You and your children probably spend more time in your home than you do at work or school
- Test your home for radon!
- The Radon Program can provide you with a list of qualified professionals

HYGENIX, INC.
49 Woodside Street
Stamford, CT 06902

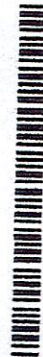
TO

**RADON TESTING
PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH**

USE BY

Apr 2017

7089768



TEST RESULTS FOR THIS KIT MAY BE AVAILABLE AT OUR WEB SITE: radon.com AFTER THE SAMPLE IS ANALYZED

START DATE 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY: NAME

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY: TEST ADDRESS

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY: CITY, STATE, ZIP

NEED YOUR TEST RESULTS ASAP? THEN CAREFULLY PRINT AN EMAIL ADDRESS TO:

STARTING CLOCK NOTICE! ENDING CLOCK
CLOCK'S ARE IN 24 HR. FORMAT



CIRCLE YOUR ANSWER(S) TO EACH QUESTION BELOW

24 THE AVERAGE TEMPERATURE OF THE AREA TESTED WAS:
IF BELOW 35 DON'T TEST 40 50 60 70 80 90 100
FLOOR TESTED: BASEMENT 1ST 2ND OTHER ROOMS
WERE CLOSED HOUSE CONDITIONS MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT
IF APPLICABLE, WERE THE CLOCKS SPACED VENTILATED
TESTING FOR: 1ST TIME FOLLOW-UP
DID YOU CAREFULLY LEAVE AT AND READ THE RESULTS?
YOU CAN VIEW ANIMATION THAT ILLUSTRATES HOW TO
ANALYZE YOUR RESULTS

ANALYSIS CANNOT BE PROVIDED IF NOT FOR INFORMATION TO YOUR ANALYST
AN EXTRA CHARGE IF YOUR LABORATORY HAS A SPECIALTY

If using the USPS, use the FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 1000 THE US Postal Service WILL DELIVER WITHOUT PROPER POSTAGE

PLEASE SHIP MULTIPLE SAMPLES IN ONE BOX TO ENSURE DELIVERY

ALL SAMPLES DELIVERED BY FEDEX FIRST CLASS WILL RECEIVE PERFECT PROCESSING
TEST RESULTS AVAILABLE SAME DAY OF ARRIVAL
VISIT WWW.RADON.COM or CALL 800-666-6666

SHIP TO:
RADON LAB
1936 BUTLER BRIDGE RD
MILLS RIVER, NC 28759-3899