

# Learn about radon health risk

January is National Radon Action Month, and University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Radon Education Program is offering a free radon presentation Jan. 17, at the Carson City Senior Center, 901 Beverly Drive, Carson City beginning at 7 p.m.

Included in the presentation will be information about radon, the health risk associated with radon and the results of area testing.

Radon is a naturally occurring, radioactive, invisible, odorless, and tasteless gas that is dispersed in outdoor air but can reach harmful levels when trapped in buildings. The U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that radon causes more than 20,000 lung cancer deaths per year.

"It is a serious health risk that is preventable and fixable," said UNCE Radon Education Program Director Susan Howe. "People need to take radon more seriously and be aware of the health effects and the possibility that there might be a dangerous gas in their homes."

Howe urged area residents to take steps during National Radon Action Month by testing their homes for radon. Free short-term radon test kits can be obtained at the public meetings. Residents can also get free short-term radon test kits during January at the Carson City Cooperative Extension, 2621 Northgate Lane, Suite 15, Carson City. From Feb. 1 to April 1, cost for the short term kit is \$5.

For more information on radon, radon testing, mitiga-

tion and/or building new homes with radon resistant features, call the Nevada Radon Hot Line at 1-888-RADON10, visit the UNCE Radon Education Program website at [www.RadonNV](http://www.RadonNV), or visit the EPA's National Radon Action Month website at [www.epa.gov/radon/nram](http://www.epa.gov/radon/nram).

This event is sponsored by the UNCE Radon Education Program, which is working with the Nevada State Health Division and the EPA in a nationwide campaign to educate Americans about the dangers of radon exposure and to encourage them to take action to protect their homes and families.

If you have questions about the physical access provided for the presentation, contact UNCE's Carson City Office at 775-887-2252.