

# Annual radon gas awareness presentation slated for Fallon

## Cooperative Extension

A scheduled presentation for information on radon and radon gas testing will be held Jan. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Churchill County Fairgrounds multipurpose building.

January is also National Radon Action Month, and to better help communities comprehend the dangers of radon, the Nevada Radon Education Program will offer presentations at various locations. Test kits will also be available at the presentations.

Free radon test kits are available through Feb. 28 at University of Nevada Cooperative Extension offices and partner offices statewide. Nevadans are encouraged to take advantage of this free offer to test their homes for this dangerous gas. The tests are extremely easy to conduct.

Radon is a radioactive, colorless, odorless and tasteless gas that comes from the ground. It accumulates in homes and can cause lung cancer. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates 21,000 Americans die each year from radon-induced lung cancer, killing more people than secondhand smoke, drunk driving, falls in the home, drowning or house fires. This type of lung cancer is preventable, and the only way to know if a home has elevated levels is to test it.

Cooperative Extension has been working to raise awareness of the dangers of radon in the home since 2007. They have distributed radon test kits since 2008. Since that time, more than 16,000 homes have been tested in Nevada, and results indicate that one in four found potentially hazardous radon



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**Susan Howe, radon program director, left, and Jamie Roice-Gomes, radon education coordinator, give a radon test kit to an attendee at a community event.**

levels. Once detected, there are fairly easy, inexpensive ways to reduce the radon exposure to safe levels.

Cooperative Extension, the EPA and the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health urge all Nevadans to get their homes tested for radon. For information, visit the Nevada Radon Education Program website at [www.RadonNV.com](http://www.RadonNV.com), call the Radon Hotline at 888-RADON10 (888-723-6610), or contact Nevada Radon Education Program Director Susan Howe at [robertss@unce.unr.edu](mailto:robertss@unce.unr.edu) or at 775-336-0248.