



January 1, 2010

## Series of radon presentation meetings begins Monday

### Submitted Story

The University of Nevada Cooperative Extension's Radon Education Program will offer several radon presentation meetings in Lyon County during the coming month, and beginning next Monday, Jan. 4, at 5:30 p.m. at the Lyon County Cooperative Extension office at 504 S. Main St. in Yerington.

Two other meetings will be held on Jan. 20--one at 11:45 a.m. at the Lyon County Library at 20 Nevin Way in Yerington, and another at 5:30 p.m. at the Smith Valley Library at 22 Day Lane in Smith. Included in the presentation will be information about radon, associated health risks, and results of area testing.

Elevated radon levels have been found in 56 percent of the homes tested in Yerington, 40 percent in Wellington, 9.8 percent in Dayton, 18 percent in Fernley, and 8 percent in Silver Springs. The county has an overall radon risk potential of 30 percent.

Radon is a naturally occurring, invisible, odorless and tasteless gas that is dispersed in outdoor air but can reach harmful levels when trapped in buildings. The U.S. EPA estimates that radon causes more than 20,000 lung cancer deaths per year. Radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, and is the leading cause of lung cancer among nonsmokers.

For those who wish to test their homes for radon, free test kits can be obtained at the meetings. Residents can also purchase radon test kits for \$5 at the Lyon County Cooperative Extension Office in Yerington.

The meetings are sponsored by UNCE's 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.

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