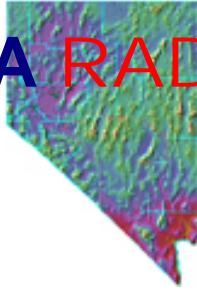


NEVADA RADON REPORT



University of Nevada
Cooperative Extension

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension – Nevada Indoor Radon Education Program (NIREP)

Sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Air and Radiation, the Nevada State Health Division, and University of Nevada Cooperative Extension

Nevada Governor Proclaims January as Radon Action Month

When Governor Jim Gibbons declared January National Radon Action Month in Nevada, it was a catalyst for plans to get all Nevadans involved in radon testing! The proclamation includes facts such as, "radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer deaths in the United States and the number one cause among nonsmokers." With startling information like this, Governor Gibbons signed the proclamation on Dec. 12, 2007, prompting NIREP to begin preparations for Radon Action Month in January 2008. The document is available on the web at: <http://gov.state.nv.us/PROCs/2008/2008-01-00RadonActionMonth.htm>.

NIREP Makes a Showing at the Grand Sierra Resort



The Grand Sierra Resort hosted its annual health and wellness fair on Oct. 30, 2007. Among those in attendance were the Nevada Lung Association, the Washoe Health and Wellness Center and the Nevada Indoor Radon Education Program (NIREP). With over 300 Nevadans at the health fair, the program distributed 71 free radon test kits to employees and visitors. All were encouraged to test homes and given a variety of information on radon.

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Radon Information at the Douglas County 4-H Expo

Not only did this year's Nevada 4-H Expo have a fashion show for rabbits, but it also featured a radon display. Many people attended the Douglas Nevada 4-H Expo, held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds on Oct. 13. They turned out to view the animals, and radon education from NIREP was an added perk! Many fact sheets on radon were given out in a county that, the EPA has declared to be one of the "highest potential" Nevada counties for radon risk.

Interest in Radon Sparked at Nevada Cattlemen's Association Convention

A variety of people from all over Nevada attended this year's Nevada Cattlemen's Association Convention, held at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Nov. 7, 8 and 9. Between meetings and social functions, guests were invited to attend a trade show featuring a wide variety of booths. University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE) had information on agriculture, cattle, youth programs, and of course, radon. NIREP distributed over 40, free short-term radon test kits. Test kits went to rural Nevada communities, such as Spring Creek, Orovada, Lamoille and Baker. With more than 500 cattlemen and cattlemen at this year's convention, the radon booth offered visitors an in-depth look at the dangers of radon with a continuous running slide show presentation. The presentation highlighted the dangers of radon, a colorless, odorless and tasteless radioactive gas. Guests were encouraged to test their homes and California visitors were given information about their state's radon program. The NIREP staff members involved in the convention were Megan Long, UNCE assistant radon program director, and Frank Flavin, UNCE western area director.



Radon Testing Instructions Available in Spanish



Instructions for testing radon are now available to the Spanish-speaking community. The Northern Nevada International Center translated the testing directions in early November and NIREP expects a large demand for translated instructions throughout the state of Nevada.

NIREP on “*Extension Connection*”

The radon team traveled down to Las Vegas on Nov. 29 to film a segment on Clark County’s “*Extension Connection*” television show. The segment focused on:

- Educating the public about the dangers of radon
- Informing the public about January’s National Radon Action Month
- Discussing the risk of radon not only in Clark County, but throughout the state of Nevada
- Promoting radon testing and mitigation
- Encouraging Nevadans to pick up a free radon test kit

The episode will air on both Clark County TV and UNLV TV throughout the month of January.

EPA Recognizes Nevada for Most Activities Planned



Nevada and South Carolina Lead Activity Plans for January

Thank you to all radon partners who have posted activities on the National Radon Action Month website! Nevada and South Carolina have the most activities so far, with four events planned in each state. Learn about featured activities taking place in Nevada and South Carolina in January and view the complete list of states with the most activities planned. The EPA will recognize the five states with the most activities planned for National Radon Action Month! The EPA encourages all organizations to enter radon activities on behalf of their state by completing the EPA’s official National Radon Action Month Activity Submittal Form by Feb. 8, 2008. Check the website often to see an updated list of the states with the most activities. NIREP will continue to add events as they are planned.

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Western Area Meeting Features Radon Presentation

A brief radon PowerPoint presentation was given at the western area meeting on Nov. 14. With the UNCE staff familiar with the dangers of radon, the NIREP program will have more people for advocating radon testing. Employees of University of Nevada Cooperative Extension will play an important part in motivating the community to test for radon. Dean Karen Hinton said that at UNCE, “We strengthen families, foster a healthy environment and enable people and communities to prosper.”

NIREP TO EXHIBIT AT NEVADA EVENTS

Radon education and test kit distribution will occur throughout the New Year. NIREP is committed to exhibit at the upcoming events and locations:

- Jan. 18 Grand Sierra Resort Employee Health Fair
- Jan. 28 UNCE Radon Education Training in Fallon
- Jan. 29 Community Radon Class in Lovelock
- Jan. 30 Great Basin Community College Features Radon Presentation in Elko



Annual Farm Bureau Meeting Hosts Radon

The NIREP team traveled to Mesquite for the annual Nevada Farm Bureau Convention on Nov. 15 and 16. Members of the Nevada Farm Bureau come from all over the state for this function. An educational booth on radon was set up in the social room so that members could get information between meetings. Thirty-six free radon test kits were distributed and all attendees went home with a radon fact sheet!



Preparation Begins For Radon Action Month

NIREP is “preparing for success” in its effort to kick off national radon action month this January. Preparations are being made for local presentations, public service announcements, press releases and interviews. January will be the largest promotion for radon education and home testing thus far. UNCE will work with the Nevada State Health Department and the District Health Department to make sure that this radon action month is the most successful one for Nevada yet!



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NIREP Statistics

Oct. 1, 2007 to Dec. 31st, 2007

Total Test Kit Distribution.....221

City	Number of Kits Distributed
Alamo	2
Baker	2
Battle Mountain	1
Carson City	6
Deeth	1
Elko	3
Fallon	7
Fernley	6
Fish Lake Valley	1
Gardnerville	3
Henderson	2
Incline Village	2
Lamoille	2
Las Vegas	4
Logandale	3
Lund	1
Mesquite	1
Minden	2
Orovada	2
Panaca	1
Paradise Valley	2
Pioche	1
Reno	107
South Lake Tahoe	1
Silver Springs	1
Sparks	33
Spring Creek	7
Sun Valley	5
Virginia City	1
Washoe Valley	3
Wellington	1
Wells	1
Winnemucca	1
Yerington	5
TOTAL	221

In our next newsletter...

We hope to have lab results from many of the test kits we have given out, compiled into a database included in our next newsletter! Watch for it!