

## NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release  
Contact: Joy Trail, Program Manager – 308-345-4223

### **Radon Poster Contest Kicks Off in Southwest Nebraska**

McCook – Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department announces an opportunity for youth ages 9 to 14 to participate in the annual radon poster contest. The contest works to educate youth about the dangers of radon exposure in the home.

“The poster contest is a great way to get kids and schools involved in radon education,” states Joy Trail, Program Manager. “The kids’ artwork is always fun to see, and they get very creative sharing what they’ve learned about radon.” Students can be sponsored by public, private, or home school —or through a sponsoring club, such as an art, computer or science club, scouting organization, or 4-H club.

Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers. It is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas that enters homes and buildings through the breakdown of uranium in the soil and cannot be detected unless it is tested. In Nebraska, one out of every two homes tested has a high radon level.

Artwork must meet the following requirements:

- On white paper - preferred size is 12 x 18 or 8.5 x 11 but all submission sizes will be accepted.
- Can be created with crayon, markers, paint (watercolor, acrylic, etc.), collage, pencil, photographs or computer graphics.
- Be original (please do not copy previous national, state or local winning posters).
- Must NOT have the student’s name on the front.
- Attach a completed Artwork Submission Form to the back.
- Lettering and message should be large enough to reproduce well, with all pencil markings erased.
- Copyrighted characters (such as Disney, Marvel Comics, Nebraska Huskers, any sports teams), product logos and trademarked or brand names cannot be used.

The deadline for submitting posters to the health department is December 9, 2019. Prizes will be given to the top 3 posters in three age groups: 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14. The office is located at 404 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street in McCook, one block north of Arby’s.

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins and Red Willow counties. For more information and contest forms, visit [swhealth.ne.gov](http://swhealth.ne.gov), call 308-345-4223 or follow on Facebook and Twitter.

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