

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Radon Test Kits Available at No Cost**

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) is offering radon test kits at no cost to residents of the nine-county health district that complete a short lesson about the health hazards of radon gas.

“Anyone can get a free radon test kit after watching a short video and answering a few questions about radon,” explains Diana Garcia, Program Manager at SWNPHD. “We want everyone in southwest Nebraska to have a safe and healthy place to live, and that includes knowing what your radon level is.”

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; the only way to know if a building has radon is to test for it. In Nebraska, one out of every two homes tested has a high radon level, because radon comes from the breakdown of uranium underground, which is widespread in Nebraska.

If you would like a free radon test kit for your home, please stop by our office at 404 West 10th Street in McCook or 418 North Spruce Street in Ogallala. Watch a short video about radon and fill out a questionnaire to get your free home test kit. If you live outside of Keith County or Red Willow County, you can request the video and questionnaire be sent to your email address. Once it is completed, we will mail your test kit to you.

SWNPHD’s do-it-yourself home test kits are simple and easy to use. The kits include instructions and a free mailing label that will send the kit straight to the lab for processing. It is best to mail the kit the same day you seal it and finish your test. The results will be mailed to the address you put on the test kit, or you can look up your test results online at [radon.com](http://radon.com) with your test kit number.

If your radon test results come back higher than 4.0, there are additional resources and education available from SWNPHD to help you with the next steps. Visit [swhealth.ne.gov](http://swhealth.ne.gov) or call 308-345-4223 for more information. Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins, and Red Willow counties. The website [swhealth.ne.gov](http://swhealth.ne.gov) contains many resources and additional information helpful to prevent disease, promote wellness, and protect health. You can also follow SWNPHD on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube.

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