



SUMMER 2011

Radon Reporter

**THE RADON INDUSTRY VISITS
THE MAGIC KINGDOM**

**2011 International Radon
Symposium Preview**

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AARST, the American Association of Radon Scientists & Technologists, is a nonprofit, professional organization dedicated to the highest standard of excellence and ethical performance of radon measurement, mitigation and transfer of information for the benefit of members, consumers, and the public at large. AARST's leadership is democratically elected by the members.

AARST represents your voice as we meet the wide range of challenges facing radon professionals and the community. Your membership and participation provides you a voice in the changes to come, and allows you to gain updated information, discover new techniques, learn about new problems before they occur, and hone your professional skills.

AARST has several local chapters where you can meet other radon professionals and state and federal officials who work with the radon industry.

AARST Radon Reporter is published 4 times yearly by the American Association of Radon Scientists & Technologists, Inc.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Carolyn Allen
AARST President

Food for Thought

Congress Acts to Protect Citizens

The CDC estimates that each year roughly 1 in 6 Americans (or 48 million people) get sick, 128,000 are hospitalized, and 3,000 die of foodborne diseases.

The FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) was signed into law by President Obama on January 4th, 2011. It aims to ensure the U.S. food supply is safe by shifting the focus of federal regulators from responding to contamination to preventing it.

The FDA has requested a budget increase of \$1.5 billion to implement the Food Safety Modernization Act.

Here are two requirements under the Act:

- Preventing problems: Food facilities must have a written plan that spells out the possible problems that could affect the safety of their products. The plan would outline steps that the facility would take to help prevent those problems from occurring.
- Focusing on science and risk: The law establishes science-based standards for the safe production and harvesting of fruits and vegetables. These standards will consider both natural and man-made risks to the safety of fresh produce.

The University of Florida Emerging Pathogens Institute recently released its list of the top ten riskiest combinations of food and disease causing microorganisms.

"There is a need to really focus on where the risks are, and use that focus as a basis for defining where funds need to be spent." - Glenn Morris, Director, University of Florida Emerging Pathogens Institute

Parallels

When I consider the FSMA, and the lack of an effective US national radon policy, I have two observations:

1. The number of deaths from food borne diseases is much lower than the 22,000 annual deaths from radon-induced lung cancer.
2. Are FSMA taxpayer dollars spent

effectively, given the number of people getting sick?

The Emerging Pathogens Institute probably is not the only organization wondering.

Radon-induced lung cancer is preventable, but we are still losing the war.

According to the EPA's IED assessment of radon fan sales, approximately 90,000 radon mitigation systems were installed in 2009. Considering an inventory of 8 million homes with indoor radon concentrations of 4 pCi/L or more, it will take 89 years to protect those homeowners. This assumes the number of homes with elevated radon concentrations stays the same. The federal government is trying to douse a radon wildfire with voluntary program that is more like a garden hose. It's long past time to work together towards more effective courses of action.

AARST's National Radon Policy Coalition, headed by Calvin Murphy, is coordinating a coalition of non-governmental organizations to effect policy change in all the federal agencies, and to drive state and local policy initiatives and scientific research. Core members of the Coalition include the American Lung Association, the National Center for Healthy Homes, AARST and the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors.

Consider Where Your Dollars Will Be Cost-Effective

The founding members of AARST and those members who are dedicated to radon testing and reduction understand the importance of the jobs we do. Our mission is to prevent lung cancer deaths, through adherence to the highest standard of excellence and ethical business practices.



Since 1986, your Association has grown to become the largest nonprofit radon professional association. We administer world's largest radon proficiency program in collaboration with the National Environmental Health Association. We also administer the AARST ANSI Radon Consortium for the promulgation of professional standards of practice. The AARST national office and our chapters work on state and local policy initiatives, advocacy and media events.

AARST offers an annual International Radon Symposium for the exchange of ideas, presentation of research, and professional enrichment. Our Members Tool Kit provides hundreds of no-cost tools for business, marketing, quality assurance activities and standards of practice. AARST members enjoy access to professional insurance and pre-paid legal services at reduced costs.

AARST is the ONLY national organization that represents and works to reduce radon health risks and enhance the success of radon scientists and practitioners. AARST membership dollars further support a small, very hardworking staff that spends every day providing opportunities for you, our members.

What other Association offers all of these benefits for less than 40 cents a day? Support our efforts and our profession. Be a member of AARST.



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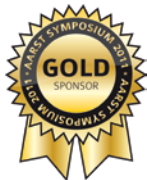
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Preliminary Program Schedule

This preliminary schedule (as of August 15, 2011) is subject to change. Updates will be posted online regularly at www.internationalradonsymposium.org.

Symposium in Brief

Saturday, October 15	Meetings, Meeting Rooms Available
Sunday, October 16	CE Courses, Registration, Meetings, Exhibitor Set-up, Welcome Reception
Monday, October 17	Joint Day with CRCPD Spouse Event: "Around the World at Epcot" Segway Tour http://internationalradonsymposium.org/sevent/
Tuesday, October 18	Symposium Plenary and CE Sessions Night Out at Treasure Tavern
Wednesday, October 19	Symposium Plenary Sessions and CE Courses

Sunday – October 16, 2011

Pre-Symposium Continuing Education Courses

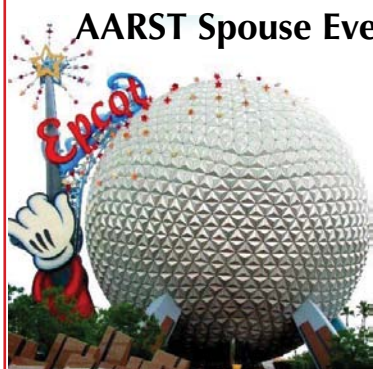
SUNDAY CE COURSES REQUIRE PRE-REGISTRATION
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Time	Course	Trainer
8:00am-Noon	Build a Radon Cloud Chamber (4 Cat I)	Dr. Jim Burkhart, WRRTC
8:00am-5:00pm	Choosing the Right Fan (8 Cat I)	Trudy Smith, Dave Hill, Jeff Hickman, Spruce Environmental Technologies
8:00am-Noon	Radon Measurement and Mitigation in Multi-Family Bldgs (4 Cat I)	Bill Angell, MURC
1:00pm-5:00pm	Radon Worker and Occupant Health and Safety (4 Cat I)	Bill Angell, MURC

Additional mini-courses of 1 to 2 hours providing Category I credit (NEHA-NRPP) are available without charge during the Symposium's Tuesday and Wednesday sessions. For the Tuesday and Wednesday "Plenary" sessions, please check with your state or accrediting organization to see if C.E. has been approved. The Plenary sessions are approved for Category II NEHA-NRPP continuing education credits.

AARST Spouse Event: "Around the World at Epcot" Tour • Monday, October 17



Organized by the Heartland Chapter of AARST, the "Around the World at Epcot" tour provides a unique, fun view of Epcot from aboard a gyroscopically stabilized, 2-wheel Segway Personal Transporter.

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Monday – October 17, 2011

Joint Meeting Day with CRCPD's National Radon Training Meeting

Time	Title	Speaker
8:00 - 8:15am	Welcome	E-25 Radon Committee Chair Bill Bell; CRCPD – Ruth McBurney; AARST President Carolyn Allen; Florida - Dr. Lisa Conti
8:15 - 9:00	Keynote	TBA
9:00 - 9:45	Federal Radon Action Plan: Progress So Far and the Role of the Radon Community	HUD – John Gant or Matt Ammon; HS – Nadine Gracia or Mary Jean Brown, DOE – Jennifer Sommers, Julie Hughes or Ryan Middleton; SDA – Megan Walsh
9:45 - 10:00	Q&A	
10:00 - 10:30	Break and Exhibits	
10:30 - 11:00	Supporting State Legislative & Policy Changes	(tentative) Doug Farquar, Bruce Snead, Angela Tin
11:00 - 12:00	Joint Leadership Updates	AARST – Carolyn Allen, EPA – Bill Long (or Dave Rawson), CRCPD – Ruth McBurney
12:00 - 1:30pm	Awards Luncheon During Lunch: Photo Slide Show of Poster Winners and Radon Tee & Other Radon Event Photos	Moderator - Bill Bell, Welcome - Mike Flynn, CRCPD Radon Hero Award - Ruth McBurney, AARST Radon Award- Carolyn Allen
1:30 - 2:10	Radon in Health and Green Buildings Programs	Eric Werling, Green Building Specialist, DOE / Ellen Tohn, One Touch Program
2:10 - 2:50	Panel on Green Building: The View from the Sump Hole	TBA
2:50 - 3:05	Q&A	
3:05 - 3:35	Break and Exhibits	
3:35 - 4:20	Roles, Responsibilities, Enforcement	TBA
4:20 - 5:00	Standards Adoption Exams	TBA
5:00	Adjourn	

Tuesday – October 18, 2011

AARST Symposium Sessions

AARST Symposium sessions have been separated into two Tracks for your convenience. Track 2 presentations include several Category I CE classes. Symposium attendees also may attend publicly scheduled National Radon Training Meeting sessions at no extra charge.

Time	TRACK 1 (International Ballroom South)	TRACK 2 (Salon B)
8:00 - 8:20am	Welcome - AARST President Carolyn Allen	
8:20 - 8:45	Cost Effectiveness of Lung Cancer Prevention by Radon Mitigation in the Upper Midwest - Dr. Daniel J. Steck, USA	
8:45 - 9:05	Radon as an Environmental Justice Issue - Calvin Murphy, USA	
9:05 - 9:25	Is There a Link Between Radon Exposure and Thyroid Cancer Incidence? – Dr. Andre Poffijn, BELGIUM	
9:25 - 9:45	Residential Radon Exposure and Multiple Sclerosis: A Pilot Study - John S. Neuberger, Dr.P.H., MPH, MBA; USA	
9:45 - 10:15	BREAK, EXHIBITS AND POSTER SESSIONS Scott - "Decontamination to Depressurization - the Evolution of Radon Mitigation" Chandraskara - "Studies on Radon at Mysore City, India" Kitto - "Distribution of Radon Professionals in the U.S."	

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Preliminary Symposium Schedule

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Tuesday – October 18, 2011

AARST Symposium Sessions (Continued)

Time	TRACK 1 (International Ballroom South)	TRACK 2 (Salon B)
10:15 - 10:40	A Semi-Automated Nuclear Track Etch Counting System for CR-39 Dosimeters – J.M.C. Brown AUSTRALIA	How to Be Successful in the Radon Business – David Daniels, USA - 1 Cat I CE Hour
10:40 - 11:05	Radon Animation for Improving Radon Testing - Laura S. Larsson, PhD, MPH, RN USA	
11:05 - 11:30	Characterization of 222Rn Concentration in Khartoum Groundwater - Hajo Idriss, SUDAN	Crawlspace Encapsulation: Best Practices
11:30 - 12:00	Feasibility of a Dual Screening Protocol and Risk Communication Intervention for Reducing Radon and Secondhand Smoke - Sarah E. Kercksmar, PhD (Kentucky College of Nursing), USA	
12:00 - 1:30pm	LUNCHEON & ANNUAL MEETING	
1:30 - 1:50pm	The First Radon Potential Map of Canada - Alan Whitehead, CANADA	Revisiting Radon Risk Communication – John Mallon, USA
1:50 - 2:10	The Occurrence of Radon on the Tobique First Nation Reserve and its Implication for Radon Occurrence Along the Saint John River Valley - Victor K. Nowicki, MSc, PGeo, EP, FEC (Hon), CANADA	Sales Workshop
2:10 - 2:30	Radon Emanation and Radionuclide Content of Subslab Fill - Michael E, Kitto, USA	
2:30 - 3:00	BREAK, EXHIBITS AND POSTER SESSIONS Elzain - “Seasonal Variation of Radon - 222 Concentration in Shops and Pharmacies of Alzarqz Town -Jordan” Bailey - “Water By-pass and Ice Blocking Device with Clean-Out Port to Protect Outdoor Radon Fans”	
3:00 - 3:20	Current State of the Art in Measuring Environmental Radon - Andy George, USA	Radon & Waterproofing: Two Industries Collide
3:20 - 3:40	Indoor Radon - 222 Concentrations in Some Cities in Kassala State, Eastern Sudan - Dr. Abd Elmoniem Ahmed Elzain, SUDAN	
3:40 - 4:10	220Rn and its Progeny Level Distributions in a Dwelling of Bangalore, India - Dr. Satish, LA, INDIA	Panel Discussion on New Federal Action Plan - Peter Hendrick, USA
4:10 - 4:30	Results of an International Intercomparison Exercise on Natural Radiation Measurements under Field Conditions - L.S. Quindos Poncela, SPAIN	
4:30 - 4:50	Assessment of Occupational Radiation Exposure in Non Uranium Miners in China - Xu Su/ Quanfu Sun CHINA	Insurance: What Type of Coverage Does The Radon Professional Need? – Al Everts, USA
4:50 - 5:00	WRAP-UP AND ADJOURN	
6:30 - 10:00	NIGHT OUT EVENT: DINNER SHOW at TREASURE TAVERN Leave your work behind and the kids at home and enjoy an evening that is custom created for grown-ups looking for naughty but good-natured fun. Savor your lavish dinner cabaret-style, accompanied by entertainment from around the world.	

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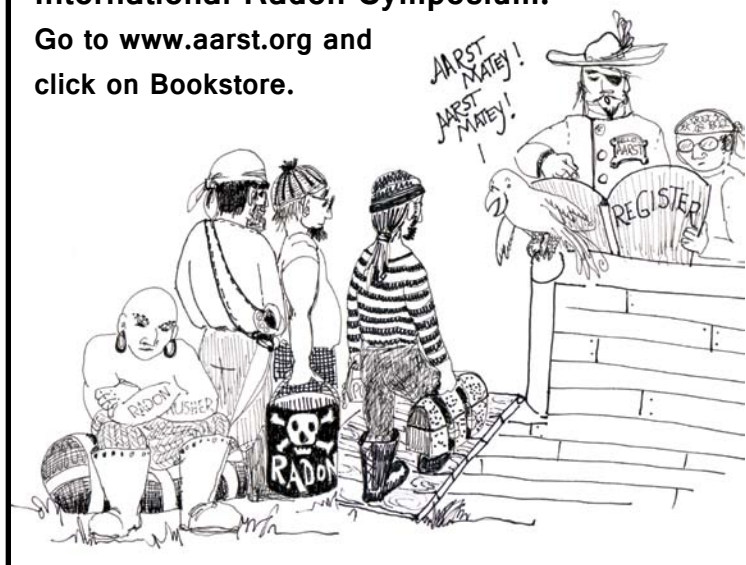
Wednesday – October 19, 2011

AARST Symposium Sessions (Continued)

Time	TRACK 1 (International Ballroom South)	TRACK 2 (Salon B)
8:00 - 8:20am	Housekeeping/Announcements	
8:20 - 9:00	Short-Term vs Long-Term Testing – Dr. Daniel Steck, Panel, USA	Advanced Mitigation: Large Buildings/ Multi-family Structures – Panel, USA 2 Cat I CE Hours
9:00 - 9:20	Average Indoor Air Radon Concentration Behavior with System Flow for ASD and ASP Mitigation Systems - Leo Moor-man, PhD, USA	
9:20 - 9:40	Radon Testing for Low-Income Montana Families- Laura S. Larsson, PhD, MPH, RN, USA	
9:40 - 10:00	Measurement of Indoor Radon and Thoron Using Twin Cup Dosimeters with LR-115 Type II Plastic Track Detector - Dr. Mohd. Zubair, INDIA	
10:00 - 10:30	BREAK, EXHIBITS AND POSTER SESSIONS Satish - “Radiation Dose Due to Indoor 222Rn and 220Rn Levels in Bangalore City, India” Al-Khateeb - “Measurement of Radon Concentration Indoors in theVillages Ayn-Jana, Ishtafena, Samta and Umm-Yanabe’ in District of Ajloun, Jordan”	
10:30 - 10:50	222Rn in Indoor Environment and Work Places: A Review - Dr.Sathish.L.A, INDIA	
10:50 - 12:00	(tentative) Basic Life Support - CPR	
12:00 - 1:30pm	Lunch on your own AARST National Board Wrap-up Meeting	
1:30	AARST Symposium attendees and presenters are invited to rejoin CRCPD’s National Radon Training Meeting.	

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JOIN THE BATTLE

By Gloria Linnertz
CanSAR

Support Needed for War on Radon-Induced Lung Cancer

*Together we
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Cancer Survivors Against Radon (CanSAR) is a 501 c3 organization that consists of individuals who became aware of the presence of high levels of radon gas in their homes only after receiving the diagnosis of lung cancer for themselves or their loved ones.

We have shared our stories with the world on www.cansar.org to help prevent others from the same fate we experienced; we are a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing radon-induced lung cancer and saving lives through radon education and awareness.

Together we can save lives. By becoming a supporter of CanSAR, you will be entitled to a Sponsorship Badge that can be placed on your website (or brochures) which links to www.cansar.org and denotes your sponsorship level.

Your support will allow us to create materials that continue to educate others about the danger of radon gas, attend various conferences or events to have our voices heard, and have booths to share our stories in such places as the Healthy Homes Conference.

Sponsorship packages are as follows:
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Donations can easily be made through www.cansar.org using PayPal payment processing.

Also present on our website will be a "Memorials" section so monetary donations can be made in memory of friends or loved ones. A "Friends" page will also be provided to list supporters who have provided services or non-monetary support and contributions to CanSAR.

Any and all support and contributions are welcomed as we continue our battle in this war on radon-induced lung cancer.

Sincerely,

Gloria Linnertz

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RADON IN CANADA

By Nicole Chazaud
AARST Chapters Coordinator

Interview with Pam Warkentin of CARST

AARST National Chapters Coordinator Nicole Chazaud, caught up with Pam Warkentin, one of the Directors of CARST (Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists), our new Canadian sister-radon organization in May.

Pam and Bob Wood approached AARST at the 2009 International Symposium in Las Vegas to see how they might become a Chapter. Since then we have offered assistance and guidance when ever needed in the formation of CARST as an independent organization.

It became clear at the onset that the corporation structure and government guidelines in Canada are a bit different than what we have here. So using AARST's By-laws and formation requirements as guidelines, Pam and her team spent months working out their motivations, goals and legalese to fit the Canadian context.

This past May 11th CARST had their first meeting, in Ottawa, attended by AARST President Carolyn Allen and AARST Past President Bill Angell. There were 21 in attendance; all completed membership forms and committed to a payment of individual dues in the amount of \$200.00 annually. The By-laws were accepted with minor changes, and seven new members, including Pam Warkentin, were nominated and accepted their roles as the Board of Directors.

NC: Pam, you and I have been chatting for quite a few months as you worked out CARST, tell me who all was helping you form CARST?

PW: Bob and Maureen Wood started the conversation. As we started working through By-Laws and goals we emailed a number of individuals in Canada who were certified and a number of those individuals started providing us with input and becoming committed to the process.

NC: We here at AARST function almost entirely as a volunteer organization. How often did you communicate with your group and how did you split up the work to form CARST and structure new by-laws. Did you work with a lawyer?

PW: We are also working entirely with volunteers and so we would communicated every couple of months as we started discussing direction. When we brought the lawyer into the picture we realized that we would need to meet face to face to make the organization official. We decided to ask the Canadian Radiation Protection Association for assistance. They have been instrumental in the changes in regulations in Canada through their Federal Provincial Territorial Committee and its recommendations to Health Canada. Their upcoming meeting was in Ottawa and so it provided a great central location to meet. We were also able to schedule some radon presentations so we could have an update on research that is happening in Canada and government directions that are ongoing. CRPA provided us a lot of encouragement and free meeting space and so with the guidance and direction of AARST and the support of CRPA we were able to start with two mentor organizations helping us move forward.

NC: Canada is as big as the US, how do you hope to break through the idea of the vastness that is the physical country, and reach professionals across your nation?

PW: We are indeed a large country and so as we assembled our board it was important that we had representation from regions across the country to ensure we will have various geographical and language issues included in our organizational focus. Since a number of our regulations are set federally we will begin with a national focus to ensure that all



Canadians are aware of their need to test and mitigate their homes for radon. Having a membership base to connect with it will provide a network for people to also connect locally and support each other in their work.

NC: What are your goals for CARST?

PW: Our goals are:

- To ensure quality standards are developed and adopted in radon measurement, radon mitigation and in new construction radon reduction techniques
- To provide a community for education sharing of ideas, resources and research
- To provide an effective radon partnership between radon professionals in the field and other interested public and private organizations
- Promote public awareness of radon measurement, radon mitigation and new construction radon reduction techniques

NC: Could you share the first CARST goals?

PW: To move our goals forward we will need to begin with a strong partnership with Health Canada, which I think we have already done by including them in our meeting on May 11 and having them participate in our organization. I am looking forward to our first year setting a strong foundation as we work with and support quality standards and good public awareness opportunities.



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