

WORKING WITH YOUR LOCAL BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

Joshua Kerber, M.S.
Research Scientist
Minnesota Department of Health
Indoor Air Unit



The 2016 International Radon Symposium
September 19, 2016 - San Diego, CA



RRNC in Minnesota

- Began educating builders in early 2000s
 - 1 on 1 training
 - CEU courses
- Gained traction after 2004 media hype
 - Builder volunteered RRNC
 - Others soon followed
- MDH began meeting with:
 - State code officials
 - Advisory committees
 - Builders



More MN RRNC History

- 2005 – More media and volunteer RRNC
- BAM still opposed RRNC
 - No definitive data showing a MN issue
 - No local data on house age and radon
- Worked with local PHD
 - Gathered local data
 - Published data in AARST Proceedings 2006
 - New houses had slightly higher radon
- Rep. Kim Norton (Olmsted County)
 - Educated on Radon & elected to MN House
 - Proposed MN Statute for RRNC



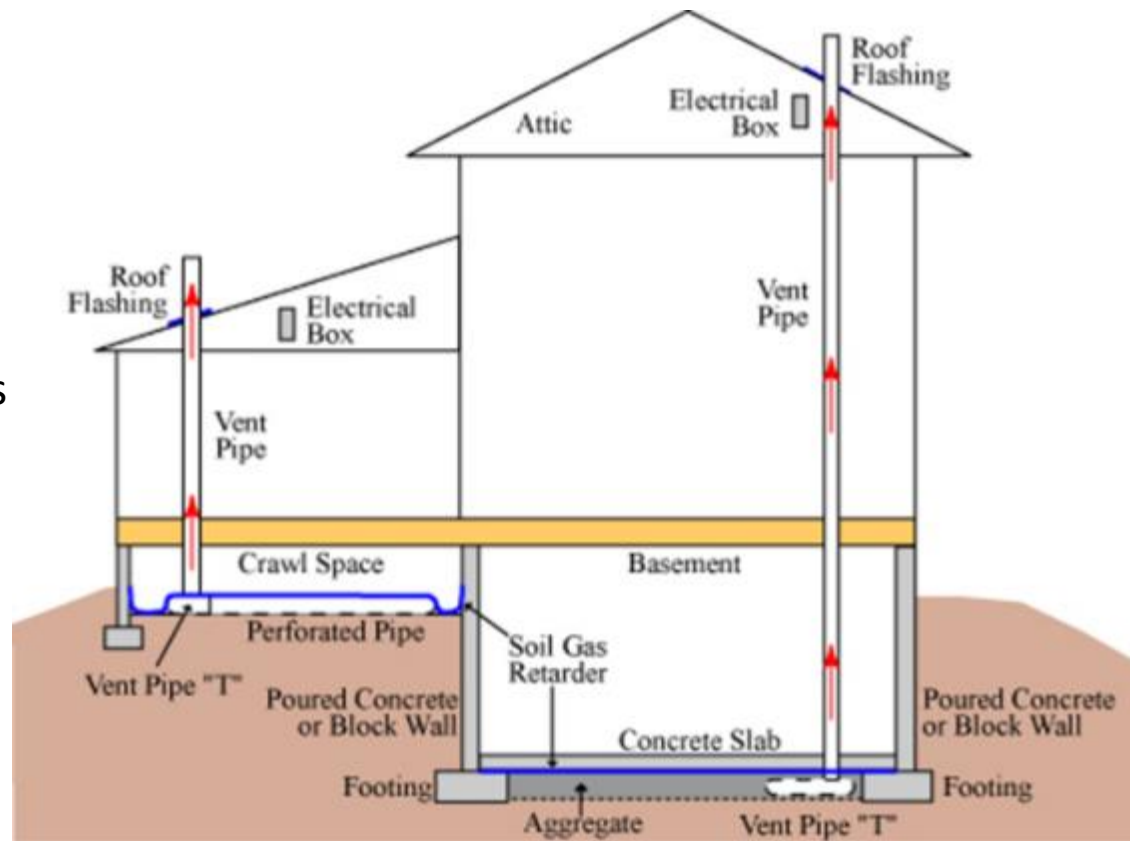
RRNC in Minnesota

- Rep. Norton's bill passed in 2007
- As of June 1, 2009 (effective date)
 - All new permits for SFH require RRNC
 - Townhomes and two family dwellings included
- Minnesota Rules Chapter 1322
 - New Residential Energy Code
 - Only code open for modification
- Based on a modified Appendix F of the IRC



RRNC Features

- Passive
 - Aggregate under slab
 - Vent pipe
 - Soil-gas retarder
 - Roof flashing
 - Electrical junction box
 - Sealing cracks and joints



RRNC in Minnesota Today

- All DoLI codes reviewed in 2011-2012
- Moved radon from Energy to Building Code
 - Simplified language
 - MN Rule 1303.2400 – 1303.2403
- Applies to **ALL** residential buildings
 - 1-4 unit SFH
 - Apartments
 - Multi-family
 - Mixed Use
- Effective February 14, 2015



Education

- DoLI trains all code officials in MN
 - RRNC is included
- MDH offers free 1 hour CE for builders
 - DoLI approved
- Classes offered through local associations and directly to builders
- CE approved by MN Dept. of Commerce is also offered to real estate agents
 - Local associations
 - Real estate offices
 - RRNC is part of the presentation



Real Estate Education

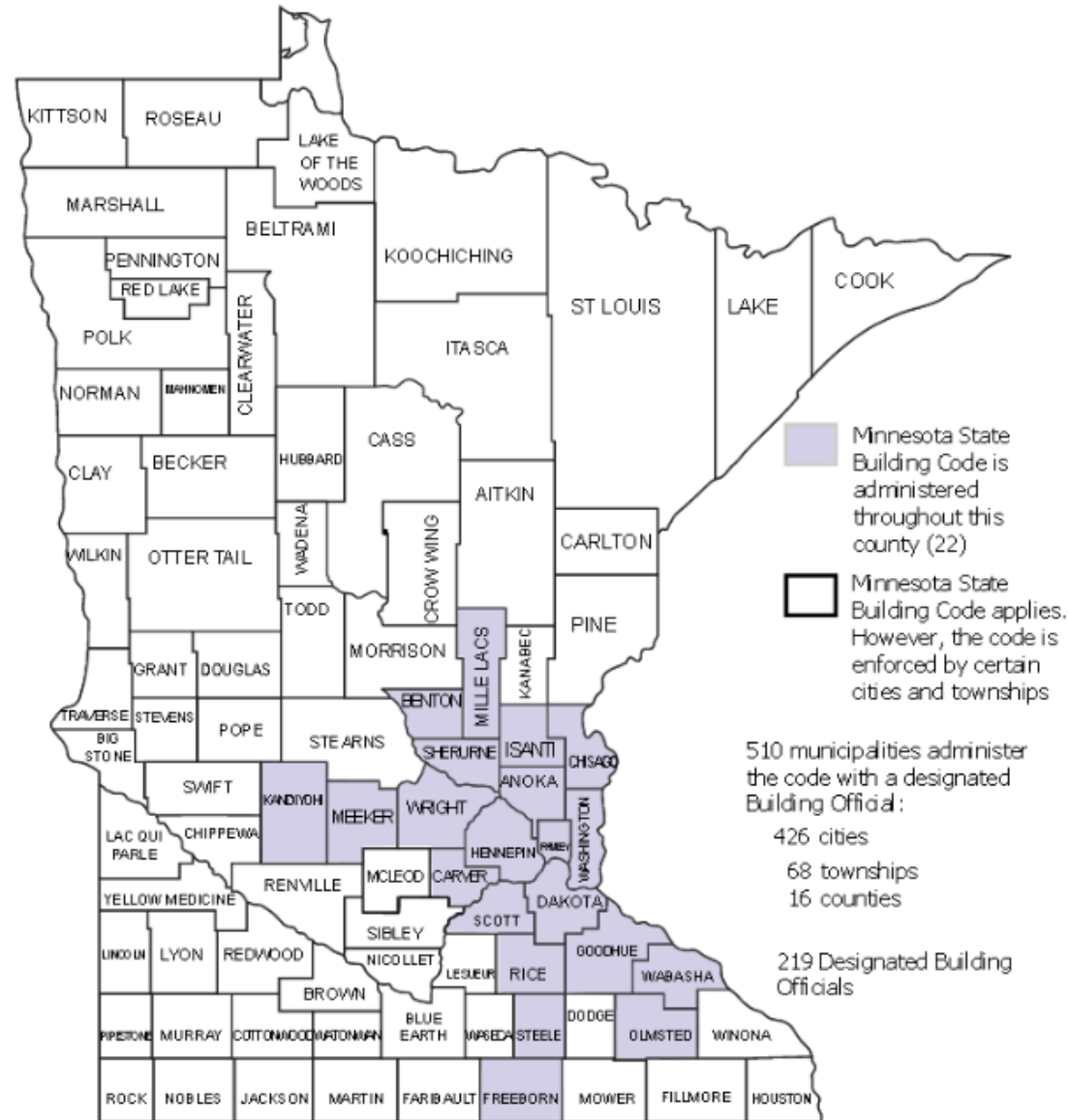
- High demand for classes
- 1/1/14: Radon Awareness Act
- Free, 1.5 hours of CE credit
- Host can pick time location
- Also offer mold & CO classes
- **48** classes, **1197** attendees
- You can host!



Scott Arcand, Outreach Coordinator

Minnesota State Building Code

- Enforced locally
 - County
 - Cities
 - Townships



4-2015





**GOLD
STANDARD**
RADON RESISTANT BUILDER

**Over 100 Builders are
Gold Standard Builders**

Hire a builder that cares!

Find a **Gold Standard** Builder at:
www.HEALTH.STATE.MN.US/GOLDSTANDARD



The 2016 International Radon Symposium™

Get to Know

- Local & State Builder Associations
- Local & State Real Estate Associations
- Local Code Officials
- State Code Officials
 - Codes are reviewed periodically
 - Participate in committees



Other Things to Consider

- Contact builders: President, Sales Manager, Construction Manager
- Understand their business, products and price point before the call
- Ask what they are currently doing regarding RRNC and get a feel for their thoughts and buy in
- Are they familiar with Radon GS Program or do they know other builders that are in the program

Finally...

- Join & participate in Association Events
- Listen to and “hear” your opposition’s viewpoints
- Find and disseminate the info they seek
- Be tactful and professional
- Change adversaries into partners

What Next?

- Continue educating
 - Builders
 - Code Officials
 - Homeowners
- Promoting MDH Gold Standard Program
- Work with partners
 - Builder's Association of the Twin Cities (BATC)

IS RADON LURKING IN YOUR BASEMENT?



Radon exposure is the number two cause of lung cancer so don't mess around. Check your home today with a free radon testing kit* from BATC and the Minnesota Department of Health. Visit ParadeofHomes.org for a link to learn more and order your free test kit.

Remember, this is just another reason to consider a new home — Minnesota new homes are built with a passive radon mitigation system for a healthier indoor environment!



ACT TODAY, TEST KITS ARE FREE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.



The 2016 International Radon Symposium™

New Construction Outreach

- 120 builders offer fan
- Builder incentives
 - Marketing
 - Brochures
 - Test kits
 - Fans for model
 - Technical assistance, training, CE classes
 - Point for *Green Path* Home
- Builders' Association PSA



Contact Info

JOSHUA J. KERBER, MS

Minnesota Department of Health

Indoor Air Unit

P.O. Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975

p 651-201-5613

joshua.kerber@state.mn.us



The 2016 International Radon Symposium™