

American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists, Inc.
(AARST)
Code of Ethics

Forward

These principles are intended to aid members of the American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (AARST), individually and collectively, in maintaining a professional level of ethical conduct. Members should recognize this standard as a set of dynamic principles guiding their business and professional conduct for all activities, meetings, conferences, and communications within or on behalf of the association. It is a guideline for professional responsibility by which they may determine the propriety of their conduct in relationships with colleagues, with members of other professions, and with the public. Any member found in breach of this Code is subject to disciplinary action, which may include warnings, suspension and or expulsion. This is a living document and, as such, shall be reviewed for content and applicability by the AARST Ethics Committee on an annual basis.

A. Relations with Colleagues, Clients, and Others

1. This section applies to daily professional activities and communications with other members, government officials, customers and members of the public and, as well, social media and internet forums and platforms.
2. Members shall never knowingly mislead anyone and shall have due regard for the safety and health of those who may be affected by the work for which members are responsible.
3. Members shall promote interest in and understanding of radon by the public, and shall not make untrue, false, deceptive or exaggerated statements regarding radon. Statements regarding radon by members shall have sound scientific basis. Inaccurate statements concerning radon and radiation, when discovered, shall be clarified as soon as possible.
4. Members will not falsely or maliciously injure, whether by action, deed, or communicated in any form, the professional reputation of anyone, including members of the public, public officials, association guests, staff, agents, and/or any member, any member product or member company.
5. Members shall strive to avoid conflict of interest in their professional roles and they shall declare potential conflicts during association related committee meetings or conferences. Members and presenters at AARST associated conferences and symposia shall clearly state potential conflicts and underwriters in all documented research presented or published.

B. Technical Professionalism

1. Members shall only provide services and products in accordance with provisions of AARST National Radon Standards and applicable laws, regulations, and codes. Where the service and product being provided is not addressed by AARST National Radon Standards and/or where federal, state or municipal laws, regulations, or codes conflict with AARST National Radon Standards, the law, code or regulation shall supersede the standards.
2. Members shall not attempt to practice in any field in which they are not proficient. When required by law, members shall be appropriately licensed or certified.
3. Members shall strive to improve their knowledge and skills and shall endeavor to extend the effectiveness of the radon profession by sharing information and experience with others, and by contributing to the work of professional associations and the scientific and academic community.
4. Members shall not plagiarize nor falsify submit research and shall have proper permissions and attributions in all published papers and presentations submitted to AARST and the International Radon Symposium.
5. Members will not knowingly sell products or provide services that endanger their clients or the public and will commit to making every effort to address or resolve product defects or service deficiencies that are brought to their attention.

C. Business Ethics

1. Members, whether enrolled through an individual or group membership, shall strive for the highest standard of integrity and fairness. Members shall take care that credit for work is given to those to whom credit is properly due.
2. Members shall protect the sources of confidential communications, provided that such protection is not itself unethical or illegal.
3. Members shall not engage in unlawful activities. Members shall not accept compensation, financial or otherwise, from more than one interested party for the same service, or for services pertaining to the same work, without the consent of all interested parties.
4. Members shall not discriminate, cyberstalk, cyber bully, or harass other members, guests, volunteers, staff members or agents of the association either in person or at meetings or via internet communications, including but not limited to: Telephones, smart devices, teleconferencing, video conferencing, chat rooms, emails, text messenger, social media forums or websites and similar means.
5. Members, whether enrolled through an individual or group membership, are responsible for the actions and activities of their guests and family members when attending AARST events, chapter and committee meetings and conferences, including all functions, committees, communications and events of AARST affiliate organizations, as it is expected that said guests and family are to behave in a professional and civil manner.