

## THE

# RADON REPORTER

Practical Information for Your Success





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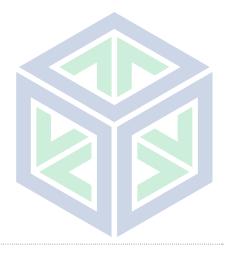
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Indoor Environments Association™ is a nonprofit, professional organization of members who are dedicated to the highest standard of excellence and ethical performance of hazard identification and abatement of radon, chemical vapor intrusion, and other contaminants of concern in the built environment. The organization primarily strives to advance the interests of its members through developing industry standards, certifying technical proficiency, enabling advancement of public policy, and communicating health risks to the public.



## Letter from the President, Dave Hill

## Why I Never Miss the Indoor **Environments Association Radon** and Vapor Intrusion Symposium

Every year, I'm asked the same question: "Why should I attend the Radon and Vapor Intrusion Symposium?" My answer is always simple, "Because it changed the course of my professional life." From the very first time I attended decades ago, I realized there were three things I always walked away with:

- 1. Valuable networking
- 2. Essential knowledge
- 3. Business and personal development

Those three reasons are exactly why I've never missed one since.

## 1. Valuable Networking Fuels Growth.

When I was just starting out in the radon industry, attending the symposium introduced me to people who truly understood the work I was doing. These were professionals facing the same challenges I was: installing systems, working with clients, and growing a business in an emerging field. The hallway conversations alone were worth the trip. I learned what tools others were using, how they approached tough jobs, and how they communicated with clients.

Over time, those connections turned into friendships and collaborations. They also opened doors: I became involved with symposium planning, industry standards, public policy initiatives, and eventually served on the board and as president of the association. None of that would have happened without the connections I made at this event.

## 2. Essential Knowledge Inspires Confidence.

Early in my career, people would ask me, "Is radon really a big deal?" Thanks to the symposium, I could confidently answer with facts and scientific insight, not just from reading, but from hearing directly from experts. The scientists, epidemiologists, EPA representatives, and state officials presenting at the symposium deliver information that's practical, research-based, and always up to date.

Whether it's the latest data on radon health effects, understanding vapor intrusion pathways, or learning the minimum standards and why they matter, the knowledge shared at the symposium strengthens our ability to serve clients better. It gives us the tools to explain the why behind what we do, and to do it with integrity.

## 3. Business and Personal Development With Lasting Effects.

The symposium isn't just about science and standards, it's about running a better business. Every year, I walk away with new ideas: how to market more effectively, how to streamline operations, how to enter new markets like schools, multifamily buildings, or vapor intrusion mitigation. These ideas come from formal sessions, hallway chats, exhibit hall demos, and impromptu brainstorming with peers.

The experience also re-energizes me. It reminds me of why I started in this field: to create healthier environments. The symposium gives me the clarity and drive to return home and improve how I serve my clients, manage my team, and grow my business.

## Final Thoughts: Why You Should Attend

Without the Radon and Vapor Intrusion Symposium, I wouldn't be where I am today. This event has helped me - and countless others - build knowledge, develop new skills, and strengthen our businesses. It's where innovation is sparked, where policy is shaped, and where community is built.

So whether you're new to the industry or a seasoned pro, I encourage you to attend. Learn from others. Share your ideas. Absorb everything, from the sessions to the side conversations. Then take it all back and use it to make your business stronger, your work more impactful, and your clients' lives healthier.

There's no substitute for the connections, knowledge, and growth that happen at this event. Don't miss your opportunity to be part of it. Your involvement in our association drives industry growth (and therefore your business) and saves lives.

## **IEA Election Ballot**

Voting in the 2025 IEA election opens October 10 and closes October 27 at 12 pm ET. Members will receive by email from IEA's balloting software the opportunity to select the Association's next President elect; 1st VP, Secretary, Treasurer as well as five National Directors (2-year terms).

## PRESIDENT ELECT



### **DAVE HILL**

Chief Revenue Officer, Spruce Environmental Technologies, Inc.

As Chief Revenue Officer Dave is responsible for the overall revenue growth strategy of all Spruce brands and divisions, including RadonAway, AccuStar, Air Chek, Spruce Training, and Spruce Ventilation. A former radon mitigation contractor with a business that served Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, and other states and managed mitigations nationally. With over 30 years in the radon and indoor air quality industries, David has been a consistent advocate for raising industry standards and supporting national policy advancement. He is the current President of IEA, Past President of the New England Chapter of IEA, and former Board member of the Basement Health Association. He also serves on ANSI/AARST

Standards committees. Dave has a degree in business management from the University of Rhode Island, where he also studied engineering and played rugby, a sport he still plays whenever his body allows. INCUMBENT PRESIDENT

## **VICE PRESIDENT**



#### **KYLE HOYLMAN**

Chief Executive Officer, Protect Environmental

Kyle is the CEO and co-founder of Protect Environmental, established in 2005, with projects completed in all 50 states and two U.S. territories. He brings extensive expertise in radon and vapor intrusion, having developed proprietary systems for measurement, mitigation, and long-term site stewardship across all building types. Kyle has been a leading force in shaping national radon policy and standards, currently serving on the EPA Radon Leadership Committee and the EPA Vapor Intrusion Science Advisory Committee. He chairs the ANSI/AARST Standards Management Council, which oversees development of national standards for radon and chemical vapor intrusion. A longtime leader in the Indoor Environments Association (IEA), Kyle is the immediate past president and continues to be

deeply involved in its mission. In 2022, he was appointed by Governor Andy Beshear to the Kentucky Board of Radon Safety and elected to serve as its chair.

## **SECRETARY - TWO CANDIDATES**



#### **JAN FISHER**

President and Director of Education, The Center for Environmental Research and Technology, Inc.

As President and Director of Education at Certi, Inc., Jan leads the development of educational programs for radon and vapor intrusion professionals. With more than two decades of experience in the radon industry, including co-ownership of Radon Supplies and serving as National Sales Director, Jan has long provided technical expertise in radon measurement and equipment. Her background in business leadership, editing, and training development reflects a deep commitment to elevating industry standards and professional education. Jan currently serves as a nationally elected Director on the IEA Board, where she is also a member of the Executive Committee and chairs both the Advocacy and Ethics

Committees. She is Vice President of the New Jersey IEA Chapter and a board member of Citizens for Radioactive Radon Reduction (CR3), supporting public education and outreach. Jan's decades of volunteer leadership have helped shape radon policy and professional practice at both the state and national levels. INCUMBENT



**PHIL MCDONNELL** 

Chief Revenue Officer, SWAT Environmental

Phil brings more than 25 years of operational leadership experience in the residential and commercial service industries, with a strong track record of driving scalable growth and organizational excellence. His background spans finance, sales, customer service, account management, and executive leadership, with a focus on building high-performance teams and delivering results. Phil has led national initiatives that expanded market presence, improved compliance, and enhanced service quality across a variety of sectors. His leadership philosophy centers on collaboration, innovation, and continuous improvement - values that closely align with the mission of the Indoor Environments Association. As

Vice President, Phil is committed to advancing IEA's impact by supporting professionals, expanding partnerships, and promoting public awareness of radon and indoor environmental health. He is passionate about helping grow the industry, enhance member value, and accelerate adoption of testing and mitigation nationwide.

## **TREASURER**



### **DAN POTTER**

President, DuPage Radon

Dan Potter is a businessman having held multi-million-dollar P&L responsibilities for startups, turn-arounds, and fast-growth companies and business divisions within the home services industry. He is currently co-owner of DuPage Radon Contractors, a larger Midwest radon mitigation company. He is the current IEA Treasurer, Vice President of MidwestIEA, President of the Illinois Radon Policy Taskforce, and sits on twelve radon-related committees. He holds a couple collegiate degrees and various certifications in building science and construction. He has achieved licensure as a general contractor, electrician, and real estate agent. Dan has been a quest speaker at numerous radon events and has been interviewed by local and national publications and shows. Dan deeply appreciates the IEA mission and

enjoys the people involved at all levels. INCUMBENT

## NATIONALLY ELECTED DIRECTORS - ELEVEN CANDIDATES



## **GUNNAR BARR**

President, Obar Systems Inc.

Gunnar has worked in the radon testing and mitigation industry since founding Obar Systems in 1985. A pioneer in radon fan technology, he co-developed the first in-line radon fans with RB Kanalfläkt in 1987 and has contributed to products now widely used across the field. He later expanded into vapor intrusion, creating the GBR VI blowers, alarms, and telemetry systems. When asked he built radon system alarms to meet standards.

Gunnar has served as a technical advisor to NJ and NY state agencies for four decades and continues to advise NJDEP VI Guidance. Since 2013, he has taught vapor intrusion courses through Rutgers University and the Environmental Information Association (EIA).



## **MYCA BRUNO**

Managing Director, Indoor Air Quality, BBG Assessment

Myca Bruno brings over 18 years of nationwide experience in environmental consulting, specializing in radon, asbestos, lead-based paint, and environmental due diligence. Her expertise spans both federal and state regulatory requirements for multifamily and commercial properties. She currently serves as the Managing Director of Indoor Air Quality at BBG Assessment, where she leads project strategy and execution. Myca is an active member of the ANSI/AARST Measurement Standards Committee and holds leadership roles

as the founding President of the North Carolina Chapter of IEA and Vice Chair of the Chapter Council. She also contributes to the IEA's Government Affairs Committee. Her work reflects a deep commitment to advancing environmental health and regulatory compliance in indoor environments.



**NATE BURDEN** 

Radon Scientist/Consultant/Radon Activist

With over 30 years of experience, Nate Burden has designed and installed more than 5,000 radon mitigation systems across residential, commercial, historical, and military properties. He has also performed specialized chemical vapor intrusion mitigation projects. and worked extensively with underserved communities through the MOVES Radon EJ Project. Nate serves on multiple boards and committees, including the AARST Foundation, CR3, PA DEP Radiation Protection Advisory Committee, the National Radon Action Program (NRAP), and the ANSI/AARST

standards committees. He was awarded the 2021 Radon Hero Award by CRCPD and has supported DOD mitigation efforts in Germany, Italy, and the U.S. He studied physics and nuclear engineering at Carnegie Mellon University. INCUMBENT



## **MICHAEL CHRISTOPHIDES**

Chief Inspector, Laboratory Director, Granite Inspection Group

Michael brings more than 30 years of experience in residential and commercial inspections, environmental testing, and regulatory compliance. His expertise covers radon measurement and mitigation in air and water, indoor air quality, diagnostics, and system design across residential, multifamily, and public buildings. Michael has authored hundreds of protocols, SOPs, and remediation plans supporting quality and standardization across multiple disciplines. His broad educational background includes certifications in OSHA, HAZMAT, BPI, and NYSERDA, and

he is a recognized voice in strategic planning, risk management, and policy development. He currently serves as a Director of the New York State Chapter and President of the New England Regional Chapter of IEA. Michael is respected for his multidisciplinary leadership and contributions to industry best practices.



#### **BOB COFFEE**

Owner and President, Your Environmental Services LLC

Bob is the President of Your Environmental Services (YES), a certified drinking water laboratory and one of the largest radon testing firms in Indiana. With a degree in Marketing and a minor in Computer Science from Indiana University, Bob has built careers in both real estate and environmental services. He is a member of both the IEA Indiana chapter's and IEA National's Government Affairs Committees, chairs the AARST Radon Measurement Quality Assurance Standards Committee, and serves on the Water Standards Committee. He is known for his

integrity, leadership, and entrepreneurial success in managing a multifaceted testing business. Outside of work, he enjoys golf, music, and travel, and recently became SCUBA certified at age 59. Bob is deeply involved in his church and community and credits his faith for guiding both his personal and professional paths. He shares his journey with his wife Dawn, and together they enjoy life with their eight children and eight grandchildren.



## **WALT DONNAY**

Co-Owner, HSS Radon Services

Walt began his career in real estate in 1996 before co-founding a construction company focused on new builds and remodels. In 2007, he entered the radon industry after attending a Minnesota state seminar, and by 2008, his company became one of the first to offer vapor intrusion mitigation services in the state. Walt now focuses on designing radon and vapor systems for new construction, working closely with architects and engineers to integrate solutions from the ground up. At HSS, he is dedicated to training the next generation of mitigators and testers to

ensure lasting industry growth. Walt's background in sales and customer service complements his technical expertise, making him a trusted resource for clients. His commitment to continuing education underscores his drive to serve both clients and the broader Minnesota community.



**DAWN GOARD** 

Co-Founder/Partner, Goard Guards LLC

Dawn is a seasoned executive with over two decades of leadership in environmental services and operations. She co-founded Goard Guards, LLC, where she consults with business owners on revenue optimization, exit strategies, and branding. Previously, she served as Executive Director of Operations at ACE Radon, scaling the business to national success and implementing performance-based pay systems, KPI tracking, and brand development. Dawn holds a B.S. in

Construction Management and an MBA with honors from the University of Colorado. She has served on the National Radon Proficiency Program Council and is a former member of the IEA/AARST Board of Directors. Served as the Chair of a NRPP JTA subcommittee and an active member with national and chapter activities. Known for her strategic acumen and integrity, Dawn continues to mentor businesses across the industry.



## ANNIE-LAURIE HUNTER

Owner, Ardent Home Inspections, LLC

Annie-Laurie has spent over 21 years as a home inspector, alongside a unique background in housing services and disability advocacy. She has played a key role in shaping home inspection licensing in New York and has led regional chapters of CNY InterNACHI, ASHI, and NYSAHI. In radon, she established a NYS DOH ELAP lab in 2006 and has held NRPP certifications in residential, multifamily, and soil gas inspections. Annie-Laurie serves on the IEA Board of Directors, as chair of the AARST Standards Consortium Residential Radon Measurement JTA and is Vice President

of both the NYS IEA and the CNY Coalition for Healthy Indoor Air. Outside her professional work, she runs a licensed wildlife rehabilitation center and rabbit rescue. Her career reflects a strong commitment to advocacy, education, and public health. INCUMBENT



MATT KOCH

Founder, Trinity Environmental

Matt has worked in the radon industry since 2008, performing measurement and mitigation across residential, multifamily, commercial, and industrial buildings nationwide. He is the founder of Trinity Environmental Consulting and a respected instructor for EPA training centers and NRPP certification courses. Matt has designed and implemented soil gas systems for over 500 buildings and led pressure field testing in hundreds more. He holds advanced NRPP certifications in Multifamily Measurement, Mitigation, and RRNC, and has contributed to the

development of AARST's advanced certificate programs. Matt previously served on the AARST Board of Directors and as Vice President and Standards Council Chair. His technical leadership and educational outreach have made a lasting impact on radon safety nationwide.



**KEVIN M. STEWART** 

Director of Environmental Health, American Lung Association

Kevin is the Director of Environmental Health for the American Lung Association and has been with the organization since 1987. A chemical engineering graduate of Princeton University, Kevin brings decades of policy and technical expertise to radon advocacy and public health. He has served multiple terms on the AARST/IEA Board of Directors and the NRPP Policy Advisory Board, contributing to standards development and public outreach. Kevin represents the Lung Association on the National Radon Action Plan and leads grant-funded radon reduction efforts.

His work has earned national recognition, including a CRCPD award in 2008. He resides with his family in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. INCUMBENT



## MICHAEL WALTHER

Former Practice Leader, EBI Consulting | Environmental Consultant

Michael is an environmental consultant with over 35 years of experience specializing in hazardous materials, radon, and environmental due diligence. At EBI Consulting, he led the transformation of a small team into a 27-member division, significantly increasing revenue and operational reach. Michael is a nationally recognized authority in radon, asbestos, lead, and mold, with numerous protocols and training resources to his name. He holds multiple professional licenses and serves on several key AARST standards committees. As a founding officer of the Maryland Chapter,

he has helped shape state-level leadership and policy engagement. Since 2024, he has focused exclusively on radon safety and cross-industry collaboration to improve public health.

# ICC's IRC-B Committee Approves Allowing ANSI-AARST Standard; Will Consider Other Changes in October

Radon is again on the agenda during the International Code Council's 2025-2026 code development process to consider changes to the International Residential Code.

ALA, CRCPD, EPA, IEA, and NCHH joined forces in January to submit four proposed changes to IRC Appendix F (renamed to Appendix AF in 2021 and then to Appendix BE in 2024).









Laura Armul, Dawn Oggier, Kim Steves and Jane Malone attended the Committee Action Hearing in Orlando, where the 11-member IRC-B committee considered radon-related proposals (and another 300 proposals on other subjects).

Below is a list of the changes, results from the first Committee Action Hearing May 1, and public comments submitted as needed in July to achieve approval at the second Committee Action Hearing in Cleveland October 22-23.

- 1. To remove the EPA radon zone map and Zone 1 county list from the appendix, because restricting localities as to when or how they may require compliance with the appendix conflicts with local authority; appendices address what to require, not where to require it. The committee agreed with this change, but members' attempts to modify the language were inconclusive and the proposal was disapproved with intent to approve at the next hearing. Two public comments propose approval: (1) as submitted and (2) as modified to reflect the May 1 committee discussion.
- 2. To allow compliance with ANSI/AARST RRNC Rough-in of Radon Control Components in New Construction of 1 & 2 Family Dwellings and Townhouses as an alternative to the appendix's radon control protocol. The committee approved this proposal because the standard provides an option for radon control, recognizing that the standard's requirements exceed current appendix requirements. Since no comments objecting to this approval were submitted to ICC for consideration at the October Committee Action hearing, it is likely that this option will be in the 2028 code book.
- 3. To require the installation of a minimum of 5' perforated pipe on each side of the tee fitting below the slab or vapor barrier. The committee was supportive of the concept, but disapproved the proposal under the theory that an inexact half cut of a 10' pipe would cause a code violation for the shorter length piece. The public comment proposes requiring installation of a minimum of 4.5' perforated pipe on each side of the tee fitting.
- 4. To require reservation of adequate space in the attic for future installation of a radon fan ("The pipe shall be centered in an unobstructed cylindrical space having a height of not less than 36 inches (91 cm) and a diameter of not less than 21 inches (53 cm)") and therefore eliminate the abandonment of existing vent pipes at the time of system activation. Although one committee member objected to adding anything relevant to a future need, the dominant reason for disapproval was requiring that the pipe be centered in the cylindrical space. The public comment proposes the pipe be located in the cylindrical space.

Since another entity – ICC's Building Code Action Committee – successfully proposed changes to the appendix's electrical requirements during the first Committee Action Hearing, a comment has also been submitted to add that the circuit shall supply an outlet located within 6 feet [1.8 m] of the anticipated fan location.

The next step in the ICC code development process is the second round of Committee Action Hearings October 22-30 in Cleveland OH. Decisions from these hearings will be subject to another round of comments for consideration by the full ICC voting membership during both an in-person hearing April 19-28, 2026, in Hartford CT and online voting through mid-May 2026.

## **NEW COURSES! ENTRY LEVEL & CE**

- Soil Gas Mitigation Compliance **Inspection Certification**
- Vapor Intrusion
- Measurement
- **Mitigation**

## **SPRUCE**

★ training



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## **Capitol Hill Update**

The President's FY 2026 Budget proposed to eliminate EPA's State Indoor Radon Grants (SIRG) indicating that "responsibility for funding local indoor radon reduction programs is best placed with states and localities." The House and Senate appropriations bills for FY26, which have been passed by the respective chambers' full appropriations committees, both propose to fund SIRG at a level comparable to this year.

Indoor Air and Radiation	FY24 Actual	FY25 Estimated	FY26 President	FY 26 House	FY26 Senate
Indoor Air: Radon Program	\$2,627	\$3,123	\$0	?	?
Radiation: Protection	\$8,791	\$9,520	\$2,470	?	?
Radiation: Response Preparedness	\$2,044	\$2,262	\$2,350	?	?
Reduce Risks from Indoor Air	\$14,343	\$12,495	\$11,642	?	?
Subtotal, Indoor Air and Radiation	\$27,805	\$27,400	\$16,462	\$14,000	\$26,852

The President's FY 2026 Budget proposed to eliminate EPA's Indoor Air: Radon Program, claiming that "all applicable statutory work (e.g., Toxic Substances Control Act, Clean Air Act, etc.) will be accomplished in other programs within the Indoor Air and Radiation Program Area." There is no evidence that other radiation programs have the capacity to lead the Radon Program, and it's unlikely to happen with the President's proposed 49% cut - or the House bill's 49% cut. The Senate has almost level-funded it. Neither the House nor Senate appropriations bill mention the Indoor Air: Radon Program. When the House and Senate return from recess in September, they will either (1) pass the Interior-Environments Appropriations Bills for EPA, finalize them in a Conference Committee, and then pass the conference report in their respective chambers, or (2) enact a Continuing Resolution that maintains spending levels at the FY25.

IEA is asking all radon stakeholders to reach out to their Senators and House member to ask that they ensure that EPA's Indoor Air: Radon Program and SIRG grants are fully funded. Read more here.



# Introducing the IEA Sponsors & Advocates Program

The Indoor Environments Association (IEA) is excited to announce the official launch of its **Sponsors & Advocates Program,** a dual-pathway initiative designed for individuals and organizations committed to advancing indoor environmental health and occupant safety.

## Become an IEA Sponsor

Organizations that seek enhanced brand recognition and visibility will find an ideal fit within the **IEA Sponsor track.** Benefactors enjoy year-round exposure across IEA publications, digital platforms, and events. Tiered from Supporter to Diamond, this sponsorship model enables companies and individuals to stand out as industry leaders. Benefits include logo placement, advertising opportunities, and recognition in print and online materials, positioning sponsors as committed champions of indoor environmental health.

#### Become an IEA Advocate

The **Advocate track** is tailored for those committed to shaping policy and fostering regulatory progress. Advocates support policy change to enact and strengthen regulatory programs, mainstream ANSI/AARST standards into laws, building codes and professional practices, and protect occupants, ensuring that radon risk reduction remains a public policy priority. Working with IEA, they help ensure federal and state policy frameworks incorporate occupant protections, funding for state indoor radon programs, and enforcement of professional best practices across the radon and vapor intrusion field.

#### Strategic Alignment for Impact

By participating, Sponsors and Advocates support IEA's strategic plan while reinforcing the Association's core mission to publicize and uphold ANSI-AARST national standards in all relevant activities. Sponsors help maintain IEA's technical leadership and educational outreach; Advocates ensure these standards translate into actionable policy and public health outcomes.

## **Expanding IEA's Influence**

This program empowers stakeholders, whether businesses or individuals, to make a measurable impact. Sponsors reinforce their industry leadership and support educational initiatives; Advocates engage in national policy efforts to institutionalize science-based standards and protect indoor air quality.

Recognizing that long-term progress depends on both visibility and policy, IEA welcomes both approaches as vital to sustaining its role as industry convener and public health advocate.

## **Get Involved Today**

For organizations looking to elevate their professional profile or deepen their institutional influence, the IEA Sponsors & Advocates Program offers a structured, impactful opportunity. Full program details, benefits, and enrollment options are available at the IEA Sponsorships & Advocates page.

## **Why Your Participation Matters**

Becoming a Sponsor or Advocate is more than symbolic: you will be joining forces with an organization committed to embedding consensus-driven, evidence-based ANSI/ AARST standards and ISO 17024-accredited credentials in policy, practice, and professional conduct, driving measurable changes that protect building occupants and support healthier indoor environments nationwide.

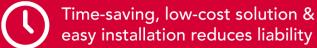
For additional information on tier options, promotional timelines, or messaging templates, please contact <u>IEA's</u> <u>Partnership Team.</u>

## SOIL GAS **COLLECTOR MAT**



## PASSIVE RADON IS NOW RADON-READY NEW CONSTRUCTION

















## The Business Case: Radon As an Important and Overlooked Public Health Problem

**Radon exposure in buildings is the second leading cause of lung cancer and results in more than 21,000 deaths each year.** Radon is one of the most comprehensively investigated human carcinogens: laboratory studies have documented that an alpha particle (e.g., from radon decay products polonium-218 and polonium-214) can cause both single- and double-strand DNA breaks and can produce indirect genotoxic and nongenotoxic effects on both traversed and neighboring non-traversed cells.<sup>1</sup>

**Radon knows no boundaries:** high radon levels have been found in all states and nearly every county. Exposure affects the health of people in farmhouses and townhouses, new homes and old homes, one-story buildings and multi-story buildings, regardless of foundation or structure type. By reducing air leakage in buildings, radon mitigation conserves energy, lowering costs for property management and occupants.

### The Business Case for Action on Radon Is Substantial

The return on investment from the benefit of avoided lung cancer death over the cost of radon mitigation is significant.

• EPA's recent cost-benefit analysis estimates that testing and mitigating 100,000 homes for radon over 20 years will prevent 3900-9900 cancer fatalities with a return on investment (ROI) of \$2.72-\$4.54 assuming a seven percent discount rate. This means that for every dollar invested in mitigation yields benefits in terms of avoided medical expense and deaths valued at \$2.72-\$4.54. This range compares favorably with the ROI of \$.83 to \$2.52 for smoke cessation.

Risk Scenario	Total Number of Reduced Cancer Fatalities With Intervention	(Billions	ent Value of Dollars, ·A)		n Investment B/A)
	Test and Mit	igate Exis	ting Home	es	
Discount Rat	te	3%	7%	3%	7%
BEIR VI	6,391	\$8.1	\$1.1	\$9.06	\$3.22
PUMA	9,986	\$12.5	\$1.8	\$13.51	\$4.54
Residentia	3,902	\$6.0	\$0.9	\$7.00	\$2.72

(Source: EPA Return on Investment Presentation, 2024)

## Radon-induced lung cancer costs the health sector and the economy \$8.6 billion annually.

- The National Cancer Institute estimated the medical cost of a lung cancer case to be \$201,000 per patient per year in **2020** based on Medicare data, iii encompassing initial (first year after diagnosis), end-of-life (year before cancer death) and continuing (the time in between) medical care plus oral prescription drugs. Medicare is funded by taxpayer contributions, premiums and federal appropriations.
- The estimated economic loss caused by each lung cancer case each year per patient was \$210,000 in 2008, including forgone earnings for employed individuals and imputed forgone earnings for informal caregiving. This loss of income affects the wellbeing of families, harms the larger economy, and causes increased dependence on benefit programs.
- EPA estimated in **2003** that there are 21,000 annual lung cancer deaths from radon (with an uncertainty range of 8,000 to 45,000).
- A death toll of only 21,000 is a fairly conservative estimate two decades later, after considering growth in the population<sup>vi</sup> and housing stock<sup>vii</sup> plus the high proportion of energy-efficient homes:

CHAI	NGES
SINCE	2003

	Population	Housing Units	Radon-Induced Lung Cancer
2003	290,207,933	121,525,460	21,000
2024	340,110,988	146,770,711	?
Growth (#)	+49,903,055	+25,245,251	?
Growth (%)	+17%	+21%	?

## The Business Case for Radon Testing in Multifamily Lending Is Multi-Faceted

The incremental per-unit cost of 100% ground contact unit radon testing is at most 31 cents per unit per month over a 20-vear loan at 4% interest.

- Based on IEA's analysis of the testing requirements for a typical property with an average of 155 units of which, per the standard, 100 ground contact and upper floor units would be tested at the high-end cost of \$80 each, the monthly cost per unit ranges from 20 cents per unit per month to 31 cents per unit per month over the life of a 20-year loan at 4% interest (and less for shorter-term loans). ix
- Mitigation costs \$2.35 \$3.91 per unit per month over the life of a 20-year loan period at 4% interest.

## In December 2020, after a three-year review and extensive public comments, HUD multifamily lending eliminated the 25% threshold to require testing 100% of ground contact units consistent with the industry consensus standard.

- HUD's decision was based on data from the Antonio Neri paper, "Evaluation of percentage- based radon testing requirements for federally funded multi-family housing projects"xi and the HUD-funded New York State Department of Health study, "Evaluating and Assessing Radon Testing in Housing with multifamily federal financing (EARTH Study)."xii
- The EARTH study team analyzed 100% ground contact test results for 687 multifamily buildings encompassing 7,892 dwelling units and determined that testing only 25% of ground contact units (HUD's protocol since 2013) had a 38% chance of missing at least one unit with a high radon level.

#### AVERAGE PROBABILITY (%) OF PARTIAL SAMPLING MISSING A UNIT IN A BUILDING WITH RADON LEVEL >4 PCI/L AT VARIOUS SAMPLING PERCENTAGES

Number of ground contact units	Number of buildings	10% sampled	25% sampled	50% sampled	75% sampled
05-06	45	58%	34%	19%	5%
07-08	71	55%	36%	15%	5%
09-10	40	65%	39%	24%	9%
11-12	37	52%	41%	21%	8%
13-14	14	51%	35%	20%	7%
15-16	20	47%	32%	15%	5%
17-18	15	59%	39%	21%	8%
19-20	12	69%	46%	23%	9%
All	276	58%	38%	19%	6.5%

(Source: EARTH Study)

#### Inspecting 10% of ground contact units fails to identify homes with high radon levels.

- The usual multifamily environmental assessment process, based on common QC procedures in manufacturing and other industries, has involved inspecting (or sampling) 10% of units under the theory that 10% is sufficiently representative.
- Variations in conditions below slabs and crawl spaces, building tightness, HVAC system operation, the stack effect, intrusion pathways present, and other building science realities cause significant differences in radon levels from one dwelling unit to the next within the same building, and from one building to the next on the same property.
- Since radon is naturally occurring in the ground, moves around opportunistically, and therefore is not present throughout, or consistently across the footprint of, a multi-unit structure, the EARTH Study found that it's necessary to test all ground contact dwelling units. Testing only 10% of ground contact units, the Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac protocol, has a 58% chance of missing a high-radon unit. xii

## Inadequate sampling creates liability risk for properties and cancer risk for occupants.

Liability against the property and its owners can arise from a claim under:

- the warrant of habitability in landlord-tenant law
- unreasonable risk of serious harm to occupants' current or future healthxiv
- deliberate indifference
- neglecting to follow known standards.xv

## Radon-induced lung cancer is relevant to the financial services sector since radon levels in every building ever occupied by an individual affect their lifetime risk.

- The occasion of a loan (upon rehab, refinancing, sale) facilitates removing the property from the risk pool through investment in radon testing (and mitigation if needed). While mobility makes individual risk imprecise in the sense that some occupants move each year (though not all occupants move every year) and not all buildings have the same radon level, resident mobility between properties does not diminish the serial risk presented to the multiple occupants of each unit over the life of a building. In reality, a higher number of residents in a unit with high radon levels increases the number of individuals for whom the property owner may be held liable.
- Although lung cancer's minimum five-year latency period has been used as an argument against property owner liability for radon-induced lung cancer, 40% of tenants in multifamily buildings with five or more units have occupied the same unit for five or more (which includes one in six who have not moved for ten or more years).

## Full compliance with 100% ground contact testing per the industry consensus standard does not add significant time or complexity as long as testing is properly specified and executed.

- A radon measurement professional can complete placement of test devices in 100-200 units in one day and retrieve them in a single day at the end of the testing period.
- One common cause for delay is when the due diligence firm or other party has not provided the radon measurement professional the required property information in advance.
- Invalid results, delays and extra costs (for retesting) arise when an untrained person conducting testing deviates
  from the standard's device placement, closed building, or quality control requirements, or otherwise improperly
  handles test devices.
- HUD reported in 2021 during a listening session on radon policy that the agency "has seen no discernable patterns of impact on application numbers or processing timelines at any of these points." xvii

## Radon in HUD, Fannie Mae, and Freddie Mac Multifamily Lending

**Lending policies to test multifamily properties for radon have evolved over time.** In January 2013, HUD's Office of Multifamily Development directed multifamily mortgagees to include radon testing in environmental reviews, and ensure needed radon mitigation, requiring the use of certified radon professionals but limiting testing to only 25% of ground contact (GC) units.\*\*xviii If elevated radon was determined present, additional testing was required to include the remainder of GC apartments to meet compliance with 100% of GC apartments tested. In December 2020, based on HUD-funded research indicating that testing only 25% of GC units had a 38% chance of missing a unit with high radon levels, HUD amended its radon policy to require 100% GC testing consistent with the EPA-recommended industry consensus standard.\*\*ix

## Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac multifamily policy mistakenly and prematurely eliminated in 2025.

• Historically, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (GSEs) required testing one in ten ground contact (GC) units for radon for multifamily loans but did not require the use of certified radon professionals or adherence to industry consensus standards.

For radon, all projects that are subject to NEPA's related environmental laws must test for radon and install radon mitigation systems for any spaces that test above 4.0 picocuries per liter for radon. In addition, new construction projects must use radon-resistant construction techniques as described in the ANSI/AARST CC-1000 standard. Because installation of mitigation systems cannot occur before the environmental review is completed, this must be entered into the environmental review record as a mitigation measure. For new construction and substantial rehabilitation properties, all mitigation, including follow-up testing, must be completed and all reports submitted to HUD staff prior to final endorsement. Radon mitigation included as part of a Section 223(f) project's repairs must be completed as quickly as possible and no later than 12 months after closing. The scope of work and related costs identified in the firm application must include all repairs related to radon. An operation and maintenance plan, called an operation, maintenance, and monitoring (OM+M) plan under the ANSI/AARST standards, must be administered per the applicable mitigation standard for any mitigation project. HUD attaches a condition to the firm commitment requiring that the borrower operate and maintain the property consistent with the referenced OM+M plan for the duration of the insured mortgage. The project must submit the final OM+M plan to HUD after the radon mitigation system is installed.

- February 12, 2021: The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) directed the GSEs to revise their radon testing and mitigation policies.
- November 3, 2022: FHFA directed the GSEs to adopt additional changes to their radon testing and mitigation policies, including testing 25% GC units, and testing additional units where elevated concentrations were determined present.

- January 19, 2023: With FHFA, the GSEs announced their joint policy. FHFA stated that the agency "will continue to monitor the multifamily mortgage market and will coordinate with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in its continuing efforts to address radon. Further adjustments may be warranted based on results from an evaluation of the Enterprises' radon testing standards to ensure they are comprehensive, data informed, fully understood by property owners, and properly implemented and enforced."xx
- March 29, 2023: In a response to a letter about the limitations of the GSEs' policy, FHFA stated it "recognizes more work is needed on radon," "believes there are information gaps regarding radon in multifamily buildings," and "was partnering with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to identify opportunities and challenges in collecting radon data at multifamily properties with Enterprise-backed mortgages." FHFA also stated, "In 2024, after they collect additional property data, the Enterprises will reassess costs, delays, and their ability to meet their mission, including any impacts to affordability and liquidity across market cycles. Your feedback will help to inform the final radon policy." xxi
- March 26, 2025: Claiming that the policy added "time, expense, and operational complexity" and was no longer consistent with the Federal Housing Finance Agency's priorities and objectives as conservator," offering no indication of re-evaluation based on facts, FHFA rescinded its prior directive for GSE radon testing and mitigation. xxiii
- April June 2025: Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac retreated from the joint 2022 policy to only require radon testing and mitigation if there is a state or local requirement, or when "the Environmental Professional recommends that testing be conducted," which has been interpreted by the environmental due diligence industry as radon testing in EPA Radon Zone 1 only. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac testing protocol requirements have reverted to 10% of ground contact units or one ground contact unit per building with no requirements for additional units tested within buildings determined to have elevated radon concentrations.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac reliance on the 1993 EPA Radon Zones for determining if radon testing should be conducted is a flawed screening method: high concentrations of radon have been determined present in all EPA radon zones and most counties.

 Data reported to CDC's National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network by labs and states indicate that only 13% of US counties had no radon test result above the EPA action level of four picocuries per liter of air between 2008 and 2017; fewer than ten test results were reported in 85% of these counties during the entire ten-year period.xxiii

## LEGEND X 0-<2 2 - <4 >/= 4 < 10 Tests No Events

#### **US COUNTIES' HIGHEST RADON LEVELS**

- National Research Council. <u>Health Effects of Exposure to Radon:</u> BEIR VI. 1999.
- Bowles, T, Return on Investment for Radon Reduction (Presentation).
- National Institutes of Health. <u>Cancer Trends Progress Report</u>. 2022.
- iv National Institutes of Health. <u>Productivity Costs of Cancer Mortality</u> in the US. 2008.
- US EPA, Assessment of Risks from Radon in Homes, 2003.
- vi US Census, Population and Housing Estimate Tables, 2025.
- vii Ibid.
- ix Indoor Environments Association, <u>Cost Analysis</u>. 2021.
- xi Neri, A, Evaluation of percentage-based radon testing requirements for federally funded multi-family housing projects; J Occup Environ Hyg. 2019 Apr;16(4):302-307.

- xii Kitto, M. et al., Evaluating and Assessing Radon Testing in Multifamily Housing, Journal of Public Health Management and Practice, 28(2):p E525-E532, March/April 2022.
- xiv Vega v. Semple, US Ct of Appeals, 2nd Circuit. 2020
- Ledg Cap., LLC v. Cove, L.P., 2024 Ala. Cir. LEXIS 36. 2024
- xvi US Census, American Community Survey. 2025
- xvii Jensen, S, HUD FHA Radon Policy, Presentation. 2021
- xviii HUD, Mortgagee Letter 13-07. 2013
- xix HUD, MAP Guide Briefing Webinar. 2021
- \*\* FHFA, Radon Standards Release. 2023
- xxi FHFA, FHFA Letter to CRCPD and AARST, 2023
- xxii Pulte, W, Posting on X. 2025
- xxiiiCDC, National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network, Data Explorer

## STANDARDS

# ANSI/AARST Consensus Standards: Process & Participation



Developing ANSI/AARST consensus standards involves a transparent, balanced, and open process that adheres to ANSI's Essential Requirements while engaging stakeholders at every step. The AARST Consortium's December 2024 Standards Development Policies & Procedures document outlines how standards are developed, maintained, and governed to ensure credibility and due process

## **Ensuring ANSI Compliance & Industry Balance**

ANSI mandates that accredited standard development bodies conduct their work with openness, stakeholder balance, public review, and a clear appeals process. AARST's procedures echo these requirements: from open participation on **Standards Development Committees (SDCs)**, to ensuring no single interest dominates decision-making, each committee must reflect balanced representation. Any draft standard released must undergo a public comment period, and materially affected parties retain the right to appeal decisions they believe were mishandled in violation of the process.

## **AARST's Committee Oversight & Maintenance Structure**

AARST's governance framework includes two primary consensus bodies: **Standards Development Committees** (SDCs), which oversee technical content and revision work, and the **Executive Stakeholder Committee** (ESC), which sets strategic priorities and manages the continuous maintenance program. Under the ESC's guidance, standards are periodically reviewed and updated through addenda or formal revisions to ensure ongoing relevance.

### **Public Review & Access**

Drafts of standards under revision are published online for public review during set comment windows with specific deadlines. Commenters submit input in a structured format, including identity, clause reference, rationale, and suggested text revisions using strikeout/underline method.

Public meetings, either committee sessions open to guests or recorded proceedings are scheduled through the Public Review portal, giving interested parties direct access to deliberations and the opportunity to engage in real time.

## **Getting Involved: Committees & Feedback**

AARST publishes **committee rosters** and opens recruitment for new members throughout the year. Anyone may volunteer during roster openings or comment periods to join the SDCs or the ESC. Notices inviting public participation in consensus ballots or committee meetings ensure transparency and inclusivity. This allows both seasoned practitioners and newer stakeholders to influence technical standards and processes.

## Interpretation & Change Request Mechanisms

When clarity is needed on an existing standard provision, individuals may request an **informal or formal interpretation**. If a timely response is required, the committee chair or a subset of the group can issue an informal interpretation, with explanation of its limitations. For more significant or official clarification, the full SDC may ballot a formal interpretation, both of which are documented and included in committee records.

Similarly, **change requests** may be submitted at any time. Under the continuous maintenance model, these proposals are evaluated by the assigned SDC. If accepted, changes are processed in accordance with established procedures and, when substantive, posted for public review in a subsequent draft. Responses to proposers, including acceptance, rejection, or deferral, must occur within defined timeframes and be transparently communicated.

(continued next page)



## **Procedural Appeals & Oversight**

If any party feels a decision by the SDC or ESC was unfair, they may appeal using Annex E procedures outlined in the Policies & Procedures. Appeals panels review whether due process was followed, not technical content, and the entire process is recorded in public minutes and affiliation logs.

## **Tools & Transparency Resources**

AARST hosts user tools, including comment templates, interpretation forms, and change request documents, on the Public Review page of its standards website. These resources guide participants in formatting submissions correctly and meeting procedural requirements. Additionally, each public-review draft includes instructions and deadlines, ensuring stakeholders can easily engage.

## Why This Matters

The ANSI/AARST standard-setting approach is built on openness, inclusivity, and rigorous process control. Whether you are a regulatory agency, industry expert, or end-user advocate, the procedures allow meaningful contribution at every stage, from initial comment to final adoption, and even further feedback as standards evolve. By participating, your input helps ensure ANSI/AARST standards remain balanced, scientifically grounded, and responsive to emerging technical and real-world challenges.

For full policy details, interpretations, tools, or information about joining committees, visit the AARST Consortium's Public Review & Access page and the Standards Development Policies & Procedures (Dec 2024) document.



# **Coming Soon: New ITRC Vapor Intrusion Guidance and Training**



The Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council (ITRC) and its Vapor Intrusion Team will soon be releasing several updated resources for the environmental community. The new ITRC Vapor Intrusion (VI) Pathway Evaluation and Mitigation Guidance Document will update, combine and replace ITRC's three previous VI documents and provide regulators, practitioners and stakeholders with a comprehensive document that includes a summary of current state practices and a "VI 101" Chapter for users who are new to VI issues. While much of the content of this guidance has been pulled forward from previous ITRC Guidance documents, processes and technologies have been updated to reflect current state of practice and available research, and additional resources such as Fact Sheets and Checklists have been created. The new Guidance Document and associated resources are

scheduled to be released in January 2026.

Several new web-based training courses and educational materials are also being developed to support the document: an update to the popular ITRC Vapor Intrusion Mitigation training series, a new VI 101 course, and two case scenario trainings focused on petroleum and chlorinated compound impacted sites. These courses will launch in 2026.

To learn more about ITRC and the Vapor Intrusion Team, visit https://itrcweb.org/vip-update-team/

## News from Wisconsin: Mitigation Contractor Certification Issue Paper

The business need for mitigation contractor certification in Wisconsin is discussed in the recently published "Issue Paper: Establishment of a Mitigation Contractor Certification Program" document. It was developed by the Remediation and Redevelopment External Advisory Group (RR EAG) and members of the public. IEA participated in the development of the paper.

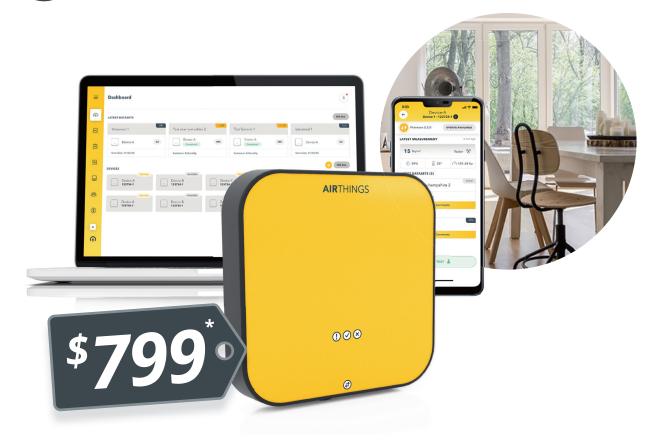
The paper discusses why a mitigation certification program is being considered to address issues with contractor qualifications and accountability identified in Wisconsin with both radon and vapor intrusion mitigation systems. Once approved, the state's program would require that mitigators be certified by NRPP's national credential for vapor intrusion mitigation. The goal of mitigation contractor certification is to ensure soil gas mitigation systems, designed and installed by qualified personnel according to established industry consensus standards, are protective of the health of occupants and limit potentially harmful exposures. Recommendations will be developed after the NRPP VI mitigation credential has been finalized and reviewed by Wisconsin stakeholders.

The WI RR EAG issue paper on mitigation certification is available HERE.









# Corentium Pro

## Continuous radon monitor

The Airthings Corentium Pro is the ultimate radon testing solution for professionals. It's perfect for any job, lightweight, comes with customizable ready-made report templates, and it's IOS & Android compatible.

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Bluetooth connectivity
 Rental options available

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## CHAPTER CORNER

## Rocky Mountain Chapter

## **Rocky Mountain Chapter Happy Hour**

Rocky Mountain Chapter board members and members gathered at Wild Blue Yonder Brewery in Castle Rock, Colorado on June 25, from 5:00 - 6:30 Pm to network, share industry news, and plan for upcoming efforts. A great time was had by all.

## **Rocky Mountain Chapter Webinar**

On May 13th, the Rocky Mountain Chapter hosted a free educational webinar for homebuilders, developers, code officials, inspectors, and trade professionals: "Radon Regulations in Colorado: What Homebuyers and Municipalities Need to Know."The session focused on recent radon-related regulation and law changes in Colorado, as well as an overview of Radon Reducing New Construction (RRNC) and Active Soil Depressurization (ASD) system requirements.

The turnout comprised more than 30 attendees. At the end, there was a highly interactive Question & Answer session, highlighting the open dialogue and educational aspects of the webinar. As regulations continue to ev olve, the Rocky Mountain Chapter plans to host more webinars - reaching out to jurisdictions that were not able to attend, ensuring all have the information needed to build healthier, radonsafe homes in Colorado.



## Rocky Mountain Chapter and American Lung Association Postcards

Rocky Mountain Chapter, in conjunction with the American Lung Association in Colorado, was able to print and distribute 250 Radon Awareness postcards into the hands of citizens, highlighting the offices of Physicians in order to get the word out about radon awareness.

## New England Chapter Luncheon and Conference

The New England Chapter Annual Luncheon Meeting was held May 8. State Radon Representatives (Alessia Frasco - Connecticut, Jonathan Dyer - Maine, Jennifer Lajoie - Massachusetts, Mary Butow - New Hampshire, Michelle Thompson - Vermont/CRCPD) provided updates. The 2024-2025 Officer and Board Membership was announced: Michael Christophides, President; Matt Hendrick, Vice President; Dave Hill, Secretary; Jordan Clark, Treasurer, and Board members Ed Beauregard, Joshua Clark, Peter Crowley, and Shawn Price. Attendees voted to donate to and support the American Radon Policy Campaign (ARPC) and three local charities. The



first annual awards were presented to members who found and provided photos of: the Worst Radon System (Hall of Shame Frankenstein Award): Melanie Miranda, Apex Radon Solutions; and Worst Radon Testing (Hall of Blame SNAFU Award): Aimee Lariviere, House Doctors Home Inspection. Matt Hendrick received the Eternal Blue Flame Award for his "dedicated and enduring spirit." Dave Hill received the GOAT Award for his many years of leadership and service to the chapter and the industry.

The New England Chapter hosted its 28th annual Regional Radon and Vapor Intrusion Conference on May 9th and

## CHAPTFR CORNFR

10th at the MGM Resort in Springfield, Massachusetts. The event drew a group of nearly 50 attendees, including radon and vapor intrusion contractors, measurement professionals, state radon and environmental program leaders, and industry experts. This annual conference continued accomplishing its goal of discussing the latest state and national updates, practical applications, and technical and business challenges facing today's radon and VI professionals.





## EPA Region 4 Radon Stakeholders Meeting

Radon professionals and state radon officials met in Huntsville April 1-2 for the EPA Region 4 Radon Stakeholders Meeting, hosted in partnership by the EPA, KSU, and the Alabama

Department of Public Health. Covering the southeast, Region 4 consists of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Numerous IEA members of the Indoor Environments Association and chapters attended, with some presenting or sponsoring as vendors.

Throughout the two-day event, attendees benefited from a packed agenda highlighting regulatory guidance and updates, technical knowledge, case studies, and outreach strategies.

One of the most valuable aspects of the event was the opportunity to network in a highly collaborative atmosphere. From strategies to improving testing and mitigation in multifamily housing, to successful state-level public awareness and education campaigns, the exchange of knowledge was both practical and inspiring. The collaboration and commitment on display in Huntsville certainly reflected a growing momentum to educate and protect more people from the dangers of radon.

# Ohio Chapter Continuing Education Event

The Ohio Chapter of the Indoor Environments Association hosted its Spring Virtual Continuing Education Event on April 17, 2025. The event ran from 8:00am - 5:00pm. The event was well attended with around sixty-five people virtually attending to hear from valuable industry experts and gain CE for the Ohio Chapter licensees.

Time	Торіс	Speaker
8:00am-8:30am	Chapter/Legislative Updates	Shad Evans
8:30am-9:30am	AARST/IEA Update	Dave Hill
9:30am-10:30am	What's New in CRM's	Dallas Jones
10:30am-11:00am	Break/Quiz	
11:00am-12:00am	Homes From Heck	Shad Evans
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch On Your Own	
1:00pm-2:00pm	Web Marketing Your Radon Business	Peter Rutchi
2:00pm-2:30pm	What Have We Learned from Extensive Radon Measurements	Dr Li
2:30pm-2:45pm	Break/Quiz	
2:45pm-3:45pm	Vapor Intrusion 101	Tony McDonald
3:45pm-4:30pm	ODH-Regulations & Education	Shamus, Luke, Lisa
4:30pm-5:00pm	Closing/Final Quiz	Shad Evans

## CHAPTER CORNER

## Interview with Leaders of the new Texoma Chapter

IEA state chapters provide an excellent source of opportunities to meet other professionals, attend CE events, learn about the latest standards and advances in the field, and work together to change state legislation. The newest chapter being welcomed is the TEXOMA chapter, covering both Texas and Oklahoma. Zan Jones, president of the Texoma Chapter, and Sarah Franco, Vice President of the Texoma chapter, answered questions about the future of the chapter.

## What brought you into the radon or indoor air quality field?

**Sarah Franco (SF):** My background is in multifamily development and construction management, where I oversaw large-scale residential projects. Through that work, I became increasingly aware of the risks radon poses to residents and the lack of awareness surrounding indoor air quality in general. That experience drove me to become NRPP-certified and dedicate myself to testing and education to help protect families and property owners.

## How long have you been involved with AARST/IEA or radon-related work?

**Zan Jones (ZJ):** Over 3 years. Joining AARST/IEA was one of my first actions when I joined Radonova. My company has been involved with AARST from the beginning and knows it's an important organization in the radon industry.

**SF:** I have been an NRPP-Certified Radon Measurement Professional since 2016 and a proud member of the Indoor Environments Association for many years. During that time, I've tested thousands of homes and apartments while staying active in industry education and standards development.

## What motivated you to step into a leadership role for the new Texoma Chapter?

**ZJ:** There wasn't a chapter specifically for Texas and Oklahoma and I saw the need. The governor of Texas declared January 2025 as Radon Action Month in the state of Texas and it was a good time to take advantage of the positive momentum.

**SF:** This is a growing field, and I want to help shape its future. Radon awareness in Central Texas faces unique challenges—it's invisible, odorless, and the EPA Radon Zone 3 classification often leads people to believe it isn't a problem here. Serving as Chapter Secretary allows me to collaborate with professionals across Texas and Oklahoma to elevate awareness and strengthen our collective impact.

## How does your experience help shape your goals for the chapter?

**ZJ:** I've had the pleasure of serving on the Rocky Mountain IEA chapter board and being involved with the Midwest IEA chapter – so I've really gotten to volunteer with some great leaders in our industry and see what they are doing in their regions. Also, I've been lucky to serve on the national IEA board where I've learned how important the NRPP is to, and how the IEA serves as, the backbone of our industry.

**SF:** My multifamily development and construction background gives me insight into how radon testing and mitigation fit into complex construction projects and tenant health considerations. Additionally, as a woman in a male-dominated field, I bring a perspective of resilience and advocacy. I want the chapter to reflect and support diverse voices while representing the needs of developers, builders, general contractors, and homeowners alike.

## What makes the Texoma region unique in terms of indoor air quality challenges?

**ZJ:** Texas is a large state geographically with varying indoor air quality challenges throughout the state.

## Are there specific regulatory or environmental issues your chapter plans to address?

**SF:** While it's too early to speak for the chapter as a whole, I personally believe maintaining strong testing standards and avoiding deregulation should be a top priority. Consistency in testing is crucial to public safety.

## How do you plan to support newly certified NRPP professionals in the area?

**SF**: We want to create a welcoming environment where new professionals can ask questions, connect with experienced colleagues, and gain practical insights that complement their certification.

#### Do you have plans for public outreach, such as school programs or community testing events?

**SF:** We don't have firm dates yet, but schools and community education programs will be a priority. Personally, I plan to continue spreading awareness through professional partnerships, social media, and ongoing education efforts.

#### What's your vision for the chapter in its first year?

**ZJ:** Our first goal is to prioritize what we want to accomplish as an association and what legislative actions we want to address first. Texas and Oklahoma do not have radon certification laws, for example. So, we have a lot of ground to cover in the Texoma region.

## Will your chapter have a presence at the Symposium (meet-up, session, booth, etc.)?

**ZJ:** Yes, there will be a breakfast for our chapter at the symposium for us to all meet in person.

## What are you most excited to share with national attendees about the Texoma region?

**ZJ:** Mostly excited to hear what other national attendees have to share! But I'm excited to have people visit Fort Worth, because I live here.

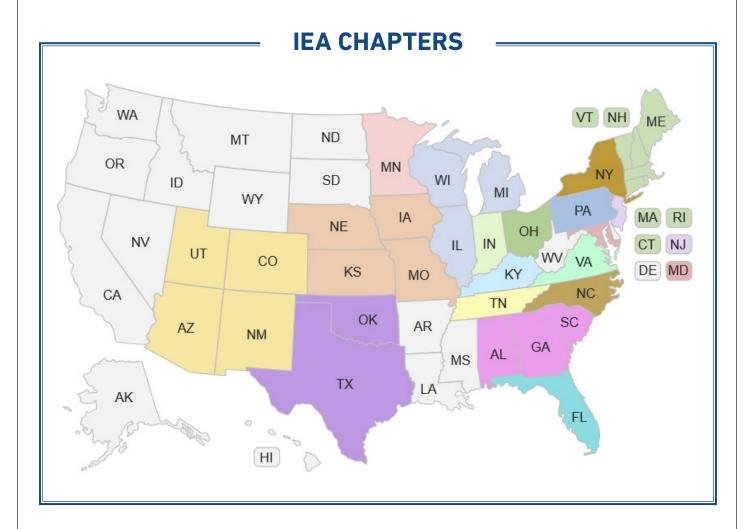
## What advice would you give to others considering getting involved with their local chapter?

**ZJ:** Getting involved in your local IEA chapter not only helps you learn from your peers and strengthen your own business, but it helps elevate awareness about the health risks of radon and VI in our communities and states.

SF: Do it! Be the change you want to see in this industry. Local chapters give you a platform to make a real difference and shape the future of radon safety in your community.

## What's your message to professionals in the region who haven't joined yet?

**ZJ:** Let's go, y'all! No more "All hat and no cattle" here in the Texoma region. Seriously, we now have the Texoma chapter that can bring us together as professionals and help promote awareness, build our businesses, and prevent lung cancer in Texas and Oklahoma.



# NRPP's Compliance Policy, Procedures, and Trends

Throughout 2024, NRPP management, in conjunction with a subcommittee of Certification Council members, updated its compliance policies and procedure. The goal was to (1) clearly define and classify compliance issues and resulting sanctions to support fair, unbiased decisions and (2) provide a process, including forms and timelines, by which consumers may alert NRPP when a certified individual is suspected of violating the NRPP Code of Ethics or whose work is not aligned with the ANSI/AARST Standards. The work was completed in November 2024 and the policy and forms were made available to the public via the NRPP website. Since that time, NRPP has received numerous complaints - some valid, some not. This article provides an overview of the compliance policy and presents a summary of complaints received and subsequent sanctions.

## **Complaints Against Certificants**

Valid complaints against certified individuals are submitted to NRPP's Compliance Office on a completed complaint form and accompanied by evidence to support the complainant's claim. To process complaints, evidence sought often includes, but is not limited to, photos and copies of communications such as texts, emails, contracts, and test results. Complaints can be submitted by an aggrieved party (e.g. person who owns the property), a contractor (certified or not), a State Radon Office, or a certifying, code, health, environmental or licensing agency (public or private).

Complaints against certified individuals are categorized as a violation of the ANSI/AARST Standards, a violation of the NRPP Code of Ethics/Certification Terms Agreement, or both. Complaints regarding mitigation system installations must be submitted within two years of the date of installation or service. Complaints involving a Code of Ethics violation do not have the same restriction.

Upon receipt of a valid complaint, NRPP recruits a Disciplinary Panel consisting of three members of the Certification Council, NRPP's governing body. Disciplinary Panel members are required to disclose any conflicts of interest with the complainant, the subject of the complaint, or his or her company prior to receiving the complaint information. The Panel reviews the complaint form and supporting evidence and determines if the certified professional's work is not in compliance with the ANSI/AARST Standards or if their behavior is not in agreement with the NRPP Code of Ethic/Certification Terms Agreement. If a violation is found, NRPP notifies the certificant of the complaint, provides the Disciplinary

Panel's determination (type of violation and reason),

and allows him or her two weeks to respond to the allegations. If the certificant fails to respond to the notice, the Disciplinary Panel proceeds with the investigation, taking only the complainant's information into account, and assigns sanctions.

NRPP notifies the certificant and the complainant of the outcome of the investigation. Violations are categorized into four classes: A, B, C, and D with D being the most severe. Sanctions are commensurate with the violation's severity (class). For Class A, B and C violations, the first line of sanction is for the certificant to return to the property and fix any identified issue, usually within 30 days. This is shortened in the case of a Class C violation since such violations have placed the health and safety of the resident in danger. Additional coursework may also be assigned. Class D violations include, for example, any Code of Ethics violation, criminal activity related to the complainant's radon business or services, falsifying certification documents and ignoring sanctions resulting from a Class A, B or C violation. Class D violations typically result in suspension or revocation of the credential. When a certification is suspended or revoked. NRPP notifies the certificant's state radon office, which has, in the past. resulted in loss of state license until resolved.

The complaints process is expected, but not guaranteed, to take no longer than 30 business days (6 weeks) to complete, from receipt of the complaint to determination and notification of the outcome. After a complaint has been closed, the certificant can appeal the disciplinary decision.

A complete <u>list</u> of the violation classes and associated sanctions can be found on the NRPP website.

## **Complaints Against Certification Activities**

To better align with the requirements of NRPP's accreditation standard (ISO/IEC 17024), NRPP formalized a process by which individuals can complain against the certification program. This category of complaints is for instances in which individuals believe NRPP is not in compliance with its own policies or with the requirements of its accreditation standards (ISO/IEC 17024), that policies have been unfairly applied, or that certification decisions are unjust or inaccurate. These can include complaints against NRPP's policies, certification requirements, certification decisions, and anyone involved in any part of the certification process such as course trainers, examinees, exam proctors, and NRPP employees and volunteers.

Disputes and grievances are considered informal complaints and are not governed by the compliance policy. NRPP staff are encouraged to resolve disputes and



grievances as they occur and are empowered to do so. The complainant is encouraged to file a formal complaint if the issue cannot be resolved to the complainant's satisfaction or when an acceptable resolution cannot be reached by informal means.

To be considered a formal complaint, complainants must complete and submit a Complaint Form within 14 calendar days of the event with which they are dissatisfied. To avoid the perception of biased decision making and preserve impartiality, the complaint is handled by NRPP personnel *not* involved in, or responsible for, the topic of the complaint.

Examinees, candidates and certificants may file an appeal against any decision that adversely affects their certification.

Valid appeals are submitted to NRPP's Compliance Office on a completed appeal form, along with additional evidence in support of their appeal, within 30 calendar days of the decision they are appealing. Failure to submit an appeal within this timeframe is deemed a waiver of the individual's right to protest the charges. All appeals are handled by NRPP's Certification Management Committee.

Filing a complaint or appeal will not result in any discriminatory action against the person submitting it. While NRPP policy requires that complaints and appealsrelated information provided to the Compliance Office be kept confidential, if the complainant does not consent to having their name and property address communicated to the certificant, NRPP is limited in its ability to resolve the complaint.

### Trends in Compliance Issues

#### **Complaints Against Certified Professionals**

NRPP's Compliance Office has handled 16 complaints against certified professionals since November 2024. Of these, eight involved violations of the NRPP Code of Ethics/ Certification Terms Agreement and eight were violations of the ANSI/AARST Standards – seven were filed against radon mitigators and one was against a measurement professional who was using an uncalibrated device.

By far, the majority of complaints filed against radon mitigators were violations of SGM-SF 6.4 ASD Exhaust **Discharge** with the point of exhaust being located less than 4 feet away from operable windows located below the point of exhaust, the point of exhaust being located below the edge of the roof but with no justification provided in the OM&M plan (or no OM&M plan provided at all), and the location of 90-degree horizontal discharges not being greater than 20 feet above grade.

Other standards violation complaints received by the Compliance Office included issues with excessive vibration and noise, improper ERV venting, pipe installation through a basement window, unsealed crawlspace membranes, unlicensed electrical work, and installation of system components on a system in disrepair.

NRPP did not process all of the standards violation complaints. NRPP needed to dismiss four complaints because the complainant did not know the name of the person who installed or serviced their mitigation system or because the complaint was against someone not NRPP-certified.

Of the eight complaints filed concerning a violation of the NRPP Code of Ethics/Certification Terms Agreement, ALL involved the certificant not upholding the terms of their warranty. These complainants claimed that they were ignored by the certificant when they attempted to contact them to request previous test results or information about the system, or express dissatisfaction with noise or climbing radon levels. Even where warranties guarantee a specific radon level, when radon levels rise and fall above that level, the mitigator did not respond to the homeowner.

As part of the NRPP Code of Ethics/Certification Terms Agreement for certification as a radon professional, individuals agree to respond to complaint inquiries in a timely manner with professional courtesy to clients, NRPP staff and committee members who have initiated the inquiry.

Further, they agree to avoid misconduct, which includes: accepting payment for services but failing to reasonably provide those services in a timely manner.

Most certificants complied with the Disciplinary Panel's sanctions; they acknowledged their error, returned to fix any issues identified, and completed any assigned continuing education by the deadline. One radon mitigator was suspended and will be reinstated if he repairs or removes, or hires a third-party to repair or remove, a system he installed by a specified deadline. The certification of another individual was revoked due to criminal activity.

#### **Complaints Against Certification Activities**

Since November 2024, NRPP has received two complaints against certification activities. One was not a valid complaint and was dismissed. The other pertained to a device listing. The complaint was handled by a Disciplinary Panel of NRPP's Certification Council.

### **Appeals**

NRPP's Certification Management Committee has heard nine appeals since November 2024. Of these, six were granted and three were denied. All three that were denied were appeals against sanctions previously administered by NRPP's Disciplinary Panel: two suspensions and one revocation of certification. The six that were granted were requests to reconsider eligibility or recertification decisions. In most cases, individuals believed they were certified and discovered they weren't when trying to access their certification account or professional profile. In three cases an administrator within the company for which these individuals worked, who was responsible for payment of certification fees, failed to pay.





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Fame markers line the stockyards'
walkways. Join the Friends and
Family Day Out.

## **Explore History and Culture**

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- General Worth Square (JFK Tribute)
- Fort Worth Water Gardens





JOIN US!

## **INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS 2025** RADON AND VAPOR INTRUSION SYMPOSIUM

Join Us for the World's Premier Indoor Environments Symposium -October 26-29 in Fort Worth, Texas!

Get ready for the industry's most anticipated event of the year! As co-chairs of this year's Radon and Vapor Intrusion Symposium, we are thrilled to invite you to the Indoor Environments Symposium, happening October 26-29 in Fort Worth, Texas. This is the largest and most influential gathering in our field—where science, technology, policy, and real-world practice converge to shape the future of indoor environmental quality.

Whether you're a seasoned professional or just starting out, this event offers incredible opportunities to grow your knowledge, connect with peers, and expand your impact. Expect dynamic keynotes, targeted technical sessions, and meaningful networking designed to inspire, inform, and equip you for what's next in our industry.

This year's agenda has something for everyone. Our curated educational tracks include: States & Tribes, Science & Research, Practice & Policy, and Vapor Intrusion.

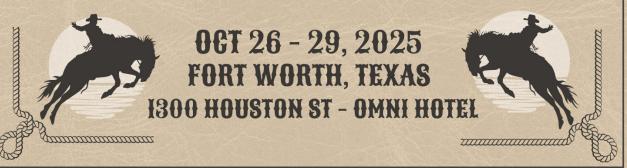
Additionally, we're offering Continuing Education (CE) courses on Sunday to help you maximize your time on site. Every session throughout the symposium is eligible for CE credit, making this event not just informative but also professionally rewarding.

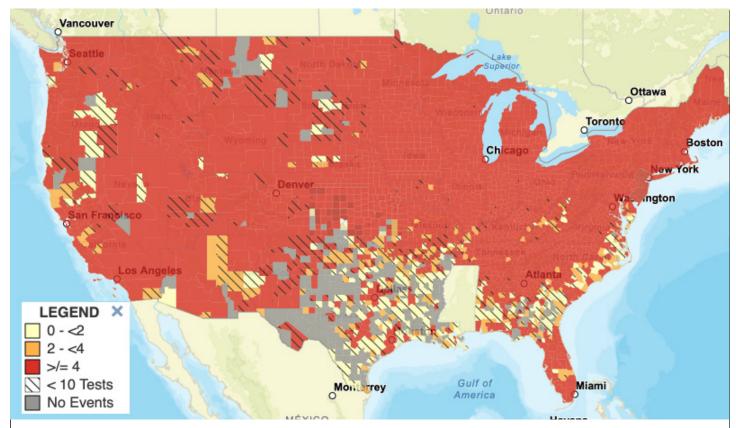
Of course, it's not all work—Fort Worth offers the perfect mix of professional focus and Texas charm. With its rich culture, fantastic food scene, and vibrant downtown, it's an ideal backdrop for relaxing, recharging, and connecting with colleagues outside the meeting rooms.

If you're committed to protecting indoor environments and staying ahead of the curve, this is the place to be. Make plans now to attend, and join a global community of professionals working to make indoor spaces safer, healthier, and smarter.

We look forward to welcoming you to Fort Worth this October!

Warm regards, Duane West and Dawn Coffee Co-Chairs, 2025 Radon and Vapor Intrusion Symposium



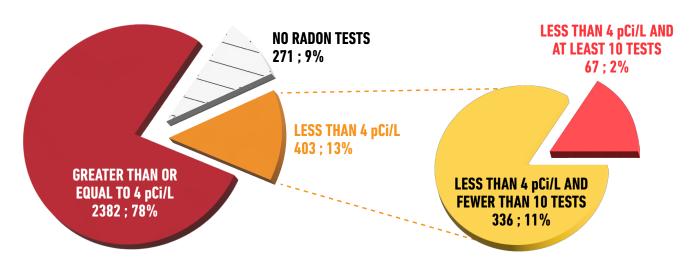


Maximum Radon Levels Reported, US Counties, CDC EPHT, 2008-2017

## IT'S ALL ABOUT THE DATA

Only 13% of US counties had no radon test results greater than or equal to 4 picocuries/liter in 2008-2017.

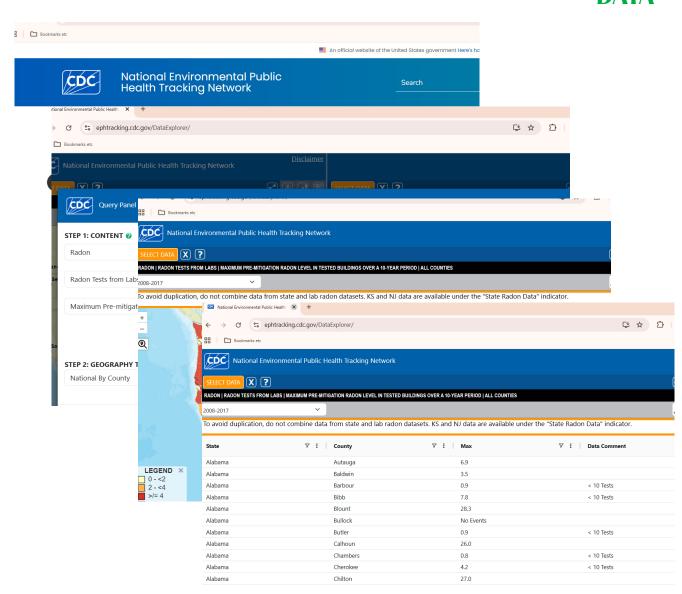
In 85% of these counties, less than 10 radon test results were reported.



Radon test data for the above map were provided for most states to CDC by radon labs - except KS and NJ, for which state agencies provided the data.

**EPHT's Data Explorer** is the online tool for accessing this and other radon test data.





The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) Program was established in 2002 in response to a call for a national network to monitor the impact of environmental factors on public health.

The radon element of EPHT was first developed through a collaboration between several states interested in contributing data and staff from EPA's Indoor Environments Division and CDC EPHT. Cumulatively, 22 states have sent radon test data to EPHT, including nine that regulate measurement. To supplement the state-provided data, in collaboration with the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment, six radon laboratories contributed more than two million test results for 2005-2017.

In addition to the Maximum Pre-Mitigation Radon Level indicator presented on the previous page, the available measures for radon include Percentage of Pre-mitigation Radon Tests by Radon Level (which is used by the Radon Report Card), Number of Pre-mitigation Radon Tests by Radon Level, Number of Buildings Tested, and Rate of Units Tested per 100,000 Housing Units. Summary data down to the county level for each year are available for download in chart, table and map formats; the default view is the map.

Additional states and labs have been interested in providing additional radon data to EPHT. New and supplemental data submissions, as well as improvements to the data dictionaries that define the radon variables. have been under discussion with EPHT. In March 2025, CDC placed EPHT staff on administrative leave and posted on the Data Explorer website: "This website is no longer being maintained, and no new data will be added." As of August 2025, EPHT staff have been reinstated, and hopefully discussion of envisioned enhancements will soon resume.



## **Diagnostic Pressure Field Extension Testing:**

## The Key to Solving Challenging Radon Mitigation Projects

By Jesse Green, American Radon Mitigation

In the world of radon mitigation, you may come across homes that are labeled "challenging" due to their size, multiple foundation zones, sub-slab material, finished spaces, or past mitigation attempts that failed to effectively lower radon levels. Often, the true challenge lies not in the home itself but in the approach taken to solve the problem. One of the most misunderstood and underutilized tools in our industry is diagnostic Pressure Field Extension (PFE) testing.

At its core, PFE testing measures the extent and strength of the suction created by your mitigation system under the slab or vapor barrier. By understanding the pressure field created by your suction point(s), you can determine whether sub-slab communication is adequate and if you're effectively creating suction below the entire footprint of the home. Without this data, every system adjustment becomes a guess.

Unfortunately, many mitigators skip this step. Instead, they default to common fallback strategies, such as installing a larger fan, adding extra suction points, or even installing multiple systems. While these methods may marginally reduce radon levels, they can also lead to overdesigned, noisy, or inefficient systems that still fail to perform. And more importantly, they do not address the root issue: continued radon entry due to inadequate pressure field extension.

PFE testing helps you:

- · Identify areas where your system is not creating suction below the slab or vapor barrier
- Determine the optimal location(s) for suction points
- Balance a system with multiple suction points
- Choose the correct pipe size
- Determine the right fan based on actual system performance needs
- · Avoid unnecessary guessing, trenching, stitching, or multiple systems

At American Radon Mitigation, we've found that obtaining full PFE coverage under the home is often the key to achieving the lowest radon levels possible and addressing the so-called "houses from heck." What might appear to be a complex mitigation challenge is often simply a matter of gathering PFE data and making targeted decisions based on it.

As Josh Kerber with the Minnesota Department of Health once told me when I was stumped on a goat barn that was converted to a house, "It's really simple, man, all you've got to do is make the positive PFE numbers negative." His advice helped me zoom out and see the bigger picture.

I believe our industry would benefit from broader adoption and training around diagnostic testing, especially PFE testing. If you regularly use micromanometers and understand how to interpret the data you see, you can save time, avoid frustration, and ultimately provide safer, more reliable results for your clients.

Are you tired of guessing and the poke-and-hope method? If so, Pressure Field Extension testing gives you the data you need to design systems that work the first time.

Some of my favorite courses that take a deep dive into PFE testing and the proper design of mitigation systems are offered by Kansas State University, including Optimal Mitigation and Advanced Diagnostics (OMAD) and Radon West's: Health Canada's Sub-Slab Depressurization Design Process. The OMAD class is offered as an inperson course a few times a year. Radon West has several self-paced video courses.

Both courses have helped me design better, more efficient, and effective mitigation systems. We've also added a video course to our website that shows our engineering process in action, using the principles we learned from these courses and other trainers.

If you want to better serve and communicate with your customers, reduce return visits, and have more confidence when bidding on projects, I encourage you and your team to start learning more about how to design your systems effectively.



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# Trying to Quit Smoking? These Expert-Backed Tips Can Help



Jennifer Folkenroth, BA, CTTS, NCTTP, NCNTT, CPAHA-TT Senior Director | Nationwide Tobacco Programs American Lung Association

According to the <u>U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u> (CDC), in 2022, the majority of the 28.8 million U.S. adults who smoked cigarettes wanted to quit; approximately half had tried to quit, but fewer than 10% were successful.

Many folks say quitting smoking was the hardest thing they have ever done. This includes people who have climbed mountains, corporate ladders, tackled childbirth and raised families.

Successfully overcoming tobacco addiction is a process, and it takes time. It can't be done at once. Individuals taught themselves how to smoke, vape or chew tobacco products and practiced for so long that the behavior became as automatic as breathing, eating or sleeping.

Quitting, then, is a process of overcoming addiction and learned

behaviors. Individuals must learn to manage nicotine addiction, unlearn their automatic behavior of tobacco use, and replace it with healthy new alternatives.

Because tobacco dependence is a chronic relapsing condition, <u>Freedom From Smoking</u> identifies quitting tobacco use and maintaining abstinence as a process in which a person may cycle through multiple periods of relapse and remission before experiencing long-term lifestyle and behavior change.

The **CDC** suggests that it takes eight to 11 attempts before quitting permanently.

It's essential to understand three challenges associated with quitting and create a plan to address each with proveneffective strategies:

## 1. Psychological Link of Nicotine Addiction

#### What is it?

- · Over time, using tobacco products becomes an automatic behavior that needs to be unlearned.
- After guitting, emotions can overwhelm a person.
- Grief can also play an important role in the quitting process.

#### How to overcome it:

- Create support systems through counseling classes, and among family, friends and co-workers.
- · Mark a calendar for every day you are tobacco-free and reward yourself for days you avoid use.
- Use positive self-talk when cravings arise, such as "the urge will pass whether I smoke or not" or "smoking is not an option for me."

### 2. Sociocultural Link of Nicotine Addiction

#### What is it?

- Certain activities and environmental cues can trigger the urge to smoke.
- As people mature, social factors or cues play a role in continuing use.
- People who use tobacco may be reluctant to give up those connections or routines.

#### How to overcome it:

• Identify your triggers and use replacements such as cinnamon sticks, doodling on a notepad or finding another activity to keep your hands busy.

- Create change and break routine by using the 3 A's — AVOID (the situation), ALTER (the situation) or ALTERNATIVE (substitute something else).
- Keep a guit kit/survival kit with you at all times with items you can use to replace tobacco product use when the urge comes.

## 3. Biological (Physical) Link of Nicotine Addiction

#### What is it?

- Addiction occurs when a substance like nicotine, alcohol or cocaine — enters the brain and activates the brain's receptors for that substance, producing pleasure.
- When a person guits, the brain's nicotine receptors activate, creating cravings and withdrawal symptoms.
- · Over time, the receptors become inactive, and the withdrawal symptoms and urges to use fade away.

#### How to overcome it:

- Use cessation medications approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (prescription or over-the-counter) in the proper doses for the full time period recommended by a clinician. Do not stop treatment early.
- Exercise alternative ways to release dopamine such as physical activity or listening to music. Use stress management techniques, including deep breathing and relaxation exercises, daily if possible.

Nearly 2 in 3 adults who have ever smoked cigarettes have successfully quit, according to the CDC. You can, too! Through a special partnership of the American Lung Association and the Indoor Environments Association (formerly AARST), the Freedom From Smoking Program is available at no charge to radon and vapor intrusion professionals and their families. Learn more about the program and how to enroll at aarst.org/ala-ffs/ or scan the QR code to begin your quit journey today.







## **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

# \* MEMBER TESTIMONIAL



## **ANDREA STEPHENS**

Being a member of IEA has been invaluable. It fosters a spirit of collaboration where we openly share ideas and learn from the top experts in the field. The collective knowledge and support across member organizations elevate our work every day. Just as importantly, the association serves as a powerful advocacy voice, uniting us around a greater purpose—to advance public health and make a lasting impact in the communities we serve.

join today, visit: ht

# **MEMBER TESTIMONIAL**



## **MYCA BRUNO**

IEA membership is a total game-changer. I've made incredible connections, tapped into a powerhouse network, and scored major discounts to the can't-miss event of the year—the symposium. Plus, the member updates keep me in the loop and ahead of the curve. IEA keeps me plugged in, inspired, and thriving!



To join today, visit:

https://indoorenvironments.org/



## **Certification Spotlight:** Thomas R. Woodford Ir.

Location:

Apulia Station, NY

Title, Company:

President, Woodford Bros., Inc.

## WHAT CERTIFICATION DO YOU HAVE?

Radon Mitigation, Radon Mitigation Specialist Certification ID #114617-RMS Expires: 2026-09-30, **ACTIVE** 

## **HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING IN RADON?**

Ten + years

## **DESCRIBE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE** AND HOW YOU GOT INTO RADON MITIGATION/ **MEASUREMENT.**

As proud members of the National Radon Defense Network (NRD), we bring decades of expertise in structural basement repairs and waterproofing. As a second-generation company, we've always been committed to protecting homes from structural and environmental hazards. Radon mitigation was a natural extension of our work because we recognized a critical gap—many basement repairs and waterproofing systems weren't properly coordinated with radon mitigation. When these systems aren't installed correctly, the benefits of each can be compromised. With our deep understanding of foundation repair, waterproofing, and radon mitigation, we ensure that every system works together effectively to create a safer, healthier home. Our approach combines structural integrity with radon safety, providing homeowners with solutions that are both comprehensive and long-lasting.

## DESCRIBE WHAT A TYPICAL WORKDAY LOOKS LIKE.

At Woodford Bros., we take pride in being a secondgeneration company with a strong foundation in the industry. Unlike many companies that come and go within just a few years, we've built a reputation for stability, expertise, and long-term commitment to our customers.

Each day, our team operates like a well-oiled machine, with dedicated departments ensuring efficiency at every step:

- Customer Care Team Our knowledgeable staff answers calls, schedules appointments, and provides guidance to homeowners looking for radon solutions.
- Specialized Design Specialist Team Unlike general sales reps, our radon mitigation specialists focus only on radon-related solutions, ensuring expert recommendations tailored to each home.
- Certified Testing When radon testing is needed, we use certified equipment operated by trained professionals to ensure accurate results.
- Dedicated Installation Crew Our installers work exclusively on radon mitigation systems, meaning they're highly skilled and experienced in proper system design and installation.
- Reliable Service Team If any issues arise, our dedicated service department responds quickly and professionally, ensuring systems continue to function properly.

This structure allows us to deliver consistent, highquality service—from the first call to installation and beyond. Every day, our goal is simple: protect homes and families with expert radon mitigation solutions that stand the test of time.

## WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WORKING IN THE RADON PROFESSION?

I love that our work protects families and saves lives by reducing radon exposure. Every home is different, so I enjoy the problem-solving aspect of designing effective mitigation systems. It's rewarding to see the direct impact when we lower radon levels. Being part of a dedicated team that ensures radon mitigation, waterproofing, and structural repairs all work together makes the job even more fulfilling.

#### ANY CHALLENGES SO FAR? IF SO. EXPLAIN.

Many homes can be challenging in and of themselves. While the basic systems are straightforward, every house is different, and some require creative solutions to achieve effective mitigation. This uniqueness keeps the work both challenging and rewarding.

## PROFICIENCY

Another challenge is customer education. Because radon is invisible and odorless, many people who haven't personally experienced its effects may be skeptical about the risks. Those who have lost a loved one to radon-related illness tend to be more aware, but for others, it can take time to understand its seriousness. We work hard to provide clear, science-based information to help homeowners make informed decisions about their health and safety.

## WHEN DID YOU FIRST GET CERTIFIED?

I personally became certified in 2024, prior to that time my brother Micheal was certified for our company.

### WHY DID YOU GET CERTIFIED?

From 1995 to 2023, my brother Michael and I ran the company together. When he decided to focus on the timber framing side of the business—his primary passion—I knew it was important to become certified myself. Since he originally held the certification and oversaw our radon mitigation work, I wanted to ensure a smooth transition while maintaining the same high standards. Having already been involved in overseeing various aspects of the work for years, earning my certification was a natural and necessary step.

#### WHY NRPP?

I chose NRPP (National Radon Proficiency Program) because it's the gold standard for radon certification. NRPP follows AARST standards, ensuring that testing and mitigation meet the highest industry guidelines. Since radon work directly impacts health and safety, I wanted to be certified through a program that is widely recognized, science-based, and continually updated. NRPP certification reinforces our commitment to professionalism, accuracy, and long-term effective solutions for homeowners.

## WHAT BENEFIT(S) DID CERTIFICATION BRING?

Becoming NRPP certified reinforced my expertise and credibility in radon mitigation. It ensures that our work meets national standards, giving homeowners confidence that their systems are installed correctly and effectively. Certification also keeps us up to date with the latest industry practices, allowing us to provide the best possible solutions for every home.

## ANY ADVICE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE CONSIDERING A CAREER IN RADON?

If you're thinking about a career in radon mitigation and measurement, my biggest advice is to embrace the learning process. No matter how long you've been in the industry, you don't know what you don't know—and getting certified is a true learning experience. The certification process isn't just a formality; it provides valuable education that improves your understanding of radon science, mitigation strategies, and industry standards.

The radon industry is constantly evolving, with new research, technology, and best practices emerging. Staying certified and engaged is key to keeping up with these changes and ensuring that you're providing homeowners with the most effective and up-to-date solutions. If you approach this profession with a commitment to continuous learning, you'll build both credibility and long-term success.

## ANY ADVICE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE CONSIDERING CERTIFICATION?

If you're serious about a career in radon mitigation and measurement, then certification shouldn't be optional—it's essential. Our job is to protect lives, and to do that effectively, we need both education and experience. No matter how long you've been in the industry, there's always more to learn.

Certification isn't just about meeting requirements—it's about understanding the science, mastering best practices, and staying current with evolving industry standards. Radon mitigation methods continue to improve, and professionals who stay certified and educated are the ones providing the best solutions for homeowners. If you want to be truly effective in this field, invest in your knowledge—because in this profession, doing the job right can literally save lives.



## Professional Spotlight Survey: TELL US YOUR STORY!

If you are interested in being highlighted in an issue of the Radon Reporter, please copy and paste the below questions with answer into an email, along with a current head shot, and return it to certification@nrpp.info

## **Spotlight: Advocacy Committee**

The Indoor Environments Association's Advocacy Committee has been instrumental in elevating radon awareness through an innovative and multi-channel outreach strategy. Over the past few years, the Advocacy Committee has produced compelling visual and audio media designed to deepen public understanding of radon risks and reinforce the need for testing in January, National Radon Action Month - and beyond. Committee Members include Jan Fisher, Laura Armul, Duane West, Andrea Stephens, Jackie Nixon, John Mallon. This dedicated group brings together their unique perspectives and care for the community at large in order to raise awareness for indoor air quality.

## **NRAM Images Available for Use**

In January, the committee designed a suite of readyto-use graphics tailored for social platforms— Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter—to mark National Radon Action Month. These designs, including infographics like "Protect Family from Radon" and "Radon Report Card," were featured prominently on the Indoor Environments "Radon Action Resources" page and all social media. These images are available and encouraged for all to use. Every year, for NRAM, the Advocacy Committee works together to generate new images. The resources also include door hangers and postcards available to print.



#### **PSA Outreach: Public Service Announcements**

The Advocacy Committee developed audio PSAs for radio. social media, ad campaigns, and beyond. These messages succinctly explain radon dangers and urge homeowners to have their homes tested for radon. These PSAs will expand the outreach that chapters and members alike are able to do - being able to provide not just an image, but a thirtysecond long PSA allows engagement of audio/video/radio resources.

## **Music Video Contest**

Last year, the Advocacy Committee organized a Radon Music Video Contest, inviting individuals and teams to repurpose popular songs with radon-focused lyrics. Announced on all social media platforms, the initiative garnered attention and participation across the professional community. Last year's inaugural contest (July-August 2024) drew four compelling entries, including the Michigan Department of the Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) production, "Please, Please, Please Test Your Home for Radon," which was selected by a panel of judges as the grand prize winner and celebrated at the 2024 Radon & Vapor Intrusion Symposium in Orlando, Fl. All 2024 entries are available here.

## **Impact and Future Direction**

Through coordinated visual, audio, and participatory campaigns, the Advocacy Committee demonstrates how creative advocacy can help engage the committee at large. The layered approach through media graphics, audio broadcast outreach, and engaging contests extends reach across demographics while promoting community involvement. As part of its ongoing mission, the committee updates resources on the Radon Action Resources yearly. They also aim to support expansion of audio PSA placements across regional radio stations and streaming services to reinforce testing messages in January.

The Advocacy Committee continues to set a high standard in multimedia radon advocacy. Through social media posts, graphics, broadcast-ready audio, and creative community engagement, they are advancing a crucial public health mission: Ensuring every home is tested for radon during National Radon Action Month—and beyond.

**STANDARDS** 

**POLICY** 

INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

**ADVOCACY** 

**PROFICIENCY** 

**MEMBERS** 

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