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Please submit content, comments, or questions to editor@aarst.org.

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 Executive Director

Not long ago, the letters most of us wore on our name badges were A-A-R-S-T. Today we are doing business as I-E-A, a name that reflects a scope that's grown beyond radon to include vapor intrusion and the broader indoor environment. The name on the door has changed, but what happens inside it hasn't: a profession built, standard by standard and member by member, by the people doing the work. Every measurement protocol, every mitigation credential, every state policy win started the same way, with someone deciding it was worth their time to build it. That is still how this organization runs, and it is the reason I'm writing to you today.

Membership is where it starts. When you join IEA, you're not buying a badge for your website, you're buying into a community of people who've already made the mistakes you're trying to avoid and are willing to tell you about them. That's the whole point of an association like ours: independent practitioners, sharing what they've learned, so the profession advances faster than any one of us could alone.

Our Standards program is the clearest expression of that idea. The ANSI/AARST standards that govern how our industry measures and mitigates radon and vapor intrusion aren't written by a distant regulator, they're written and maintained by volunteer consensus committees made up of measurement and mitigation professionals, scientists, government partners, and manufacturers, sitting at the same (virtual) table and working it out. If you've ever cited a standard to a client, you've relied on someone else's volunteer hours.

Certification and continuing education turn those standards into practice and that proficiency is an important part of what we deliver. NRPP credentials give the public a way to tell who is qualified, and our periodic certification scheme revalidations, ongoing course approvals, and new credentials like the certification being built for vapor intrusion, keep that qualification program meaning something as the science keeps moving.

Equally essential is the policy ground underneath us, because standards and credentials only mean something if the programs and funding that support them survive. Our government affairs and advocacy work, from the IEA Advocates Program to the relationships we maintain on Capitol Hill and in state capitols, is what keep programs like State Indoor Radon Grants funded and keep radon and VI policy on the agenda when budgets get tight. That work happens because IEA members show up to make the case.

Locally, our Chapters extend that work into communities, working alongside IEA national, hosting continuing education, running outreach, and advocating for state-level policy in the places where the decisions actually get made. And at every level, from chapter officers to the national Board, leadership is volunteer-built. The people setting direction for this organization are the same people doing the fieldwork, running the labs, teaching the classes, and advising clients on environmental risk.

So when you see our cover this issue - Who builds the profession? We do - and understand that it isn't a slogan. It's a job description. It has your name on it, whether you've stepped into a committee seat yet or not.

Thank you for the work you've already put in, and for what you'll build next!

IEA Election Ballots

Voting in the 2026 Indoor Environments Association election opens Sep 23 and closes October 5 at 12 pm ET. Members will receive by email from IEA's balloting software the opportunity to select the Association's next Vice President as well as five National Directors (2-year terms).



**GEORGE
SCHAMBACH**

**GUNNAR
BARR**

**BRUCE
FERGUSSON**

**MERRITT
GANTT**

**MATT
KOCH**

**JOHN
MALLON**

**LAURA
MATHYS**

**SHAWN
PRICE**

**KIMBERLY
STEVES**

**DUANE
WEST**

VICE PRESIDENT

GEORGE SCHAMBACH - *President and Owner, Professional Home Inspection Services, Inc.*

George Schambach is an experienced home inspector and environmental consultant based in Deposit, New York. With a career spanning over five decades, he has a diverse background that includes owning and operating a petroleum business, working in the building supply chain, and managing corporate branches. Since joining Professional Home Inspection Service in 2004, and later acquiring full ownership in 2021, George has focused on expanding the environmental services offered by the business.

He is an active member of several professional associations, including IEA/AARST, Association of Home Inspectors, and NYS Home Inspectors Association, and holds multiple certifications in radon measurement and mitigation, asbestos inspection, mold assessment, and pest inspection. George has also contributed to the field through teaching, serving on various boards, and providing expert testimony on construction practices. Currently, he serves as the President of IEA/AARST New York chapter, Senior Vice President of the National Board of Directors AARST, and IEA/AARST Chapter Council Member. **INCUMBENT**

NATIONALLY ELECTED DIRECTORS

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).

BRUCE FERGUSSON - *President, Air Source Technology, Inc.,*

Bruce is currently President of Air Source Technology, Inc., an environmental, health, and safety consulting firm, based in Lexington, KY. Bruce is a ABIH Certified Industrial Hygienist and retired Professional Engineer (Electrical) that advises on a broad range of industrial hygiene topics, including facility commissioning, building science investigations, forensic investigations, indoor air quality issues, radon measurement and mitigation, pharmaceutical facilities and certifications, expert witness consulting, HVAC and Local Exhaust Ventilation design, and infection prevention in medical facilities. Mr. Fergusson has presented and published numerous technical papers at various international conferences on indoor air quality, Radon, air testing, and building science. Mr. Fergusson served on the committee that wrote the mold regulations for Kentucky and currently serves as a charter member of the Kentucky Governor's Board for Radon Safety. Today he is active in various industry associations that are dedicated to measuring and improving the indoor environment.

MERRITT GANTT - *Owner and Operator, True Air Technologies*

Merritt is a graduate from Clemson University where he competed as a Track and Field Athlete. Merritt has extensive knowledge and experience growing up working in a family-owned construction company. Merritt has made it his goal to become an expert in the radon industry. He is nationally certified with the NRPP in radon measurement and mitigation. He is also a soil gas mitigation compliance inspector with the NRPP. He has personally designed and installed hundreds of residential, multifamily, and commercial radon mitigation systems. In addition, he designs mitigation systems for radon resistant new construction (RRNC), offers consultation services, and has participated as a radon mitigation trainer with Kansas State University.

MATT KOCH - *Director of National Radon Services, Clean Vapor / Fullterra*

Matt has worked in the radon industry since 2008 and has performed radon measurement and mitigations nationally in single family, multifamily, mixed-use, school, and commercial buildings. Matt currently teaches for both EPA training centers. Matt has also taught National Radon Proficiency Program (NRPP) certification classes for entry level Radon Measurement and Mitigation, Radon Resistant New Construction (RRNC) in Residential Structures, Soil Gas Control Measures in Multifamily, Commercial, School and Mixed-Use Buildings, Radon Measurement and Mitigation in Multifamily, Commercial, School, and Mixed-Use Buildings, Advanced System Design, and numerous other subjects. Matt has designed soil gas systems for radon, vapor, and methane intrusion in over 500 buildings. He has been directly involved in the installation of these systems in hundreds of buildings and has completed or overseen pressure field extension testing on them.

JOHN MALLON - *President, Radon Detection and Control, LLC.*

John Mallon is the President and CEO of Radon Detection and Control, LLC, which he founded in 1986 in Western Pennsylvania / Northern West Virginia Area. John has installed over 45,000 Residential Radon Mitigation Systems and Thousands of Large Radon and Vapor Intrusion Mitigation Projects (Schools, Large Buildings, Multifamilies). His prior relevant experience includes: 10 years in Field Engineering and QA/QC- Nuclear Power Plant Construction / Modification. AARST Member since 1988. John chaired the AARST/ANSI Standard for Multifamily Mitigation. He taught certification and continuing education classes in the US and Canada. John is very proud to have served the Radon Community and is interested in continuing the work.

LAURA MATHYS - *Director of Radon Services, AEI Consultants*

Laura has lived in Denver, Colorado, since 2013 after relocating from Chicago. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina and also holds a degree in Illustration from Columbia College Chicago.

Laura began her career in 2007 as an environmental consultant, conducting environmental assessments across the United States. In 2020, she earned her NRPP certification after becoming more involved with her company's HUD-related work. Since then, she has led radon measurement projects and provided expertise on radon requirements for a wide range of company projects. In 2023, Laura was promoted to Director of Radon Services at AEI Consultants, where she oversees the company's radon services and supports clients on radon-related projects nationwide.

SHAWN PRICE - *Director of Laboratory Operations, Spruce Environmental Technologies, Inc.*

Shawn Price oversees the operations of three Spruce facilities, Air Chek (NC), and AccuStar's PA & MA laboratories. Shawn is a former AARST President and current Chair of the Standard Management Council (SMC). Additionally, Mr. Price chairs the ANSI/AARST MEAS standard, which covers the measurement of radon in schools, commercial, single-family, and multifamily buildings. Shawn

brings 37 years of industry experience, including expertise in government affairs, laboratory operations, quality management systems, certification, and lab accreditation. Shawn shared: "Through investments in accredited standards and certification, we've become a reputable leader capable of influencing policies concerning safe and healthy housing. State and Federal programs now seek our leadership and advice, a major shift from the past. While we haven't yet reached our ultimate goals, we can save even more lives and leave a robust, sustainable, and profitable industry for the next generation of IEA members by furthering partnerships that will help us educate policymakers." INCUMBENT

KIMBERLY STEVES - *Retired - Director, Kansas Department of Health & Environment, Radiation Control Program*

Kim retired in 2022 after a distinguished 34-year career with the Kansas Department of Health & Environment, where she served as Director of the Radiation Control Program. As the director, she had responsibility for 23 staff, a more than \$2 million budget, and the radiological emergency preparedness (REP), environmental, radon, X-ray, and radioactive materials programs, along with the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know (EPCRA) program. Kim served as the Kansas Project Officer for the EPA State Indoor Radon Grant for more than 30 years. Kim is currently certified in Kansas as a Radon Measurement Technician and a Radon Mitigation Technician. Under Kim's tenure, Kansas promulgated laws for radon disclosure and for radon certification. Kim also served as the Governor-appointed State Liaison Officer to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for Kansas. After her retirement, Kim worked from 2023-2025 as a technical assistant for the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc., and served as the CRCPD's radon project officer. Kim has been serving as a National Director on the IEA Board of Directors since 2024, including serving on the Symposium Program Committee and the Government Affairs Committee. Kim also represents the IEA on the National Radon Action Plan Leadership Council and serves as the President of the Board for the IEA Foundation. INCUMBENT

DUANE WEST - *Owner, 3R's Construction and Remodeling*

Duane West, a native Oregonian, is deeply passionate about life and its preservation. Actively engaged in the radon industry from both a mitigation and education, he serves as an IEA/AARST Board member and chair of the NW Radon Coalition. This year, he is advocating for Oregon legislators to expand required radon testing to include seniors, children, and underserved groups.

Duane collaborated with Oregon State University on a pilot program to educate students about radon gas dangers and empower them to spread awareness in their communities. He owns a construction company and has been involved in various IEA/AARST committees, including as National Director, Symposium Committee Chair, Membership Committee Chair (current), and service on the Advocacy and GA Committees. Additionally, he teaches CE radon courses for real estate professionals and inspectors and is trained in mold and indoor environmental hazards. Duane is committed to promoting radon awareness from the classroom to the legislature. INCUMBENT



The Evolution of QC From a Radonosaur's Perspective

Shawn Price, Director of Laboratory Operations, Spruce Environmental.

Early Quality Control

Quality Assurance (QA) has been an integral part of the radon industry since the original release of the Interim Indoor Radon and Radon Decay Product Measurement Protocols in February 1986. Section 1.3 Quality Assurance Objectives begins "The object of quality assurance is to ensure that data are scientifically sound and of known precision and accuracy." That section continues and describes controlled calibrations, replicate measurements, background measurements, and routine sensitivity checks. Forty years later quality assurance is still a vital part of a credible, defensible, and accurate radon testing program and the quality control (QC) measures included in the original guidance, while slightly renamed as spikes, blanks, and duplicates, are the cornerstone of the radon testing and laboratory analysis.

Early industry pioneers encountered challenges because many aspects of today's industry were not yet available, such as radon chamber intercomparisons, device approvals, training programs, and laboratory accreditation programs that performed routine audits and inspections. The scientists who began to establish our infrastructure were met with a boom of individuals and companies coming out of the woodwork to make a fortune in the new industry. Unfortunately, not everyone had quality and good intentions in mind. Old timers will remember the reference to the mayonnaise jar and how easily it would be to scam homeowners into hiring bogus mitigation services.

Nevertheless, radon testing was booming in the late 1980s, and test kits were flying off the shelves. That was until a report was released by the consumer group Buyers Up in January 1989. The report focused on shortcomings of federal regulations and industry quality assurance. Although there were significant flaws in the study's methodology, the news stories that followed acted as a wakeup call to the industry and regulators that change was needed. While some laboratories did not survive the resulting downturn, the US EPA and states went to work to develop more testing standards and certification requirements that would make testing more accurate and provide improved public protection.

The industry stall lasted a few years until relocation-related and real estate sales testing and mitigation increased. While quality had improved, there were new challenges brought about through a new surge in testing tools to provide fast result turnaround. We were back in business!

Quality Improvements

Quality guidance continued to improve through the mid-1990s through EPA's and the states' development of protocols and quality assurance documents. While professional training was readily available and a lot of certified testers were in the business, there was still a lot to be done around QA/QC. I worked as a contractor for EPA on the regulatory side of the industry back then, and while there was a lack of complete trust, I did see that there was a good deal of quality and it was wise to "trust but verify."

One unfortunate practice involved hiding the identity of blanks, duplicates, and spike samples when submitting to laboratories because some felt that they had to trick the laboratory or fabricate data instead of indicating that the devices were for QC.

Another challenge was the extent of information that could be presented in the two-day introductory radon measurement classes. QC can be method- and device-specific, which could not be adequately covered in introductory courses. Additional courses specifically addressing QC needed to be developed. Even testing professionals with good intentions weren't always taught how to write a QA Plan or perform QC on the devices they used. As a result, we see some very interesting things at our labs.

Blanks are one of the core quality control measurements because they are designed to identify contamination that has been picked up by the device during manufacturing, storage, or transit.

Blanks

The most common issue that I have seen with blanks is that the device users don't realize that the laboratory needs to have realistic exposure information to plug into the formula to determine whether contamination has occurred. The lab can analyze a device just fine, but it requires dates, times, and the rest of the variables in the equation to provide a result.

Recent QA/QC guidance has clarified that there are different types of blanks: travel blanks, storage blanks, and field blanks. Depending on the type of device, purchasing, and storage habits, one type of blank may be more important than others. For example, a radon awareness program that stores unused devices for several months may want to increase storage blank frequency compared to a professional who uses devices immediately after purchase.

In the spirit of keeping the blanks hidden from the laboratory, they are supposed to arrive with other devices and appear to be real samples. They should be removed from any plastic wrap and sealed normally if they have seals, lids or caps.

Storage location can also lead to problems. Storing in unconditioned spaces or in work vehicles can introduce temperature or humidity extremes that can impact the reliability of a test device. Is your storage area ideal? Monitor the temperature and humidity. How much radon is in the storage area? Blanks may let you know after you have a problem, but with proper environmental sensors a problem might be discovered before devices have been compromised.

Duplicates

The ability of a device or laboratory to provide repeatable results is assessed through duplicate samples. Deploying two devices a few inches apart is an excellent way of determining whether a measurement system is in control. Depending on the type of device and the area being tested, spacing between the devices can be key. Consider the charcoal-based devices for a moment. Activated charcoal draws radon out of the air, so two devices too close together can compete.

On the other hand, devices too far apart can provide different readings if one is closer to a radon entry point than the other. I recall trying to help a client with a pair of duplicates several years ago that did not agree with each other. Yes, they were both in the basement and within 4" of each other, but after several minutes I discovered that they were deployed on different sides of a partition, which was dividing the room in half. No wonder they didn't agree.

Acceptable control limits can be a challenge to understand. The relative percent difference (RPD) calculation is used, but the acceptable percentage depends on how much radon is being measured. The most difficult cases are when there is barely any radon at all. We've received many calls over the years, "the RPD is outside of the control limit! One says

0.4 and the other is 0.9. It's terrible!" Oh, except there is no high level of radon there.

One of the most common duplicate issues that I've encountered is inaccurate record keeping in the field during large projects. Long device numbers are easily transposed, and handwriting can be difficult to decipher, leading to record mix-ups where the wrong two devices are being compared. Sometimes the lab can help unravel these situations by comparing other variables, such as weight gain. In addition to using technology in the field, such as barcode readers, placement photographs can be very helpful when assessing quality results to ensure that field records are correct.

Spikes

Radon chamber exposures generate a lot of the questions we receive. The most common is, "Why do I need to do spikes? Isn't that the lab's responsibility?" Testers often note that other environmental fields, such as lead, asbestos, and mold, do not require spikes. Does this requirement trace back to concerns about the "mayonnaise jar," uncalibrated laboratories, or faulty devices? Perhaps. Regardless, spikes remain an essential part of a radon testing program.

Accredited laboratories perform a lot of spikes. We expose our devices to known amounts of radon in a variety of environmental conditions to ensure that we can accurately measure radon in buildings across the US during every season of the year. Yet, we cannot account for the integrity of the devices once they have been distributed. Many customers quickly use the devices after purchase, reducing the possibility of something compromising them.

Longer term storage, whether in a basement, office building, or in the back of a work truck, will introduce variables that the laboratory cannot account for without QC spike submissions.

Sometimes blanks and duplicates will identify the issues, but at the end of the day the exposure to known amounts of radon proves to be an excellent way of determining whether the devices are still good.

"Why do spikes?" is the most common question, but the biggest headache that the labs face with spikes goes back to the idea that testers must hide things from the lab. Many newcomers to QC programs try to mix spikes with field samples for specific projects. Spikes must be correctly labeled with the chamber dates and times for the lab to accurately analyze them. Not doing so wreaks havoc with lab calculations and triggers a time-consuming process of obtaining the correct information, performing recalculations, reissuing reports, and going through the explanations of why the original results were wrong and the proper way of preventing it from reoccurring. Once is

• STANDARDS

usually enough, but we do see repeated mistakes by the same professionals from time to time.

Another problem that happens too often is that spikes are delivered back to the client who might not be at the desk for several days. The spikes are decaying away and when they finally arrive at the lab the decay has created a significant amount of uncertainty, and sometimes they become invalid. Spikes aren't cheap, so repeating them due to handling mistakes is not ideal.

My last war story involves an individual that had it in for the laboratory. During a round of spikes, we absolutely nailed the radon chamber concentration. The batch was so good that the individual assumed we cheated or we sat around scrutinizing every single sample trying to identify spikes. So, the next time they paid for spikes, they wanted to make the test harder. They let the devices sit around for 10 days after they arrived from the chamber, calculated what the radon concentration would have decayed to (nearly 3 half-lives later), and then changed the dates and times to align with the decay. Of course, our results were out of acceptable tolerance, but once we were notified, completed the investigation, and considered the amount of uncertainty created by the excess decay, which would have normally invalidated the measurement, I was impressed that we were still within 30% of the radon chamber.

Prioritizing Quality for our Future

The radon industry has made incredible improvements in quality over the years. Laboratory and calibration standards through NELAC, ISO, states, and the AARST Consortium have set us up for much success.

2027 holds another important QA-QC improvement in the National Radon Proficiency Program (NRPP) requirement for measurement device-specific training.

This has been on my wish list for many years, and I believe this is an important step to further improve measurement quality.

My hopes are that the device-specific courses go beyond simple starting and stopping instructions, how to avoid interferences, and choosing optimal exposure times and conditions. I hope that the courses can dive into some of the quality control parameters, how to achieve the most accurate and defensible results, control chart development and monitoring, and what they can investigate, and information needed to initiate a quality review with their manufacturer or laboratory.

I also want our clients to understand how our reports work, what the uncertainty means, and the differences in lower limit of detection (LLD) and minimum detectable concentration (MDC). I hope clients can work with the

laboratories to meet us halfway and can identify when problems begin to occur instead of when control has been lost. In a perfect world we would have the opportunity to interview clients and talk through the most common scenarios that can impact quality, but there are just too many clients and not enough time for personal interviews. The device specific training will need to play a big part in those communications.

Measurement and Quality Standards

Development and maintaining quality assurance documentation can be time consuming, difficult, and frankly, boring. Unless you work in a regulated state or are NRPP-certified, there is a feeling that nobody is looking, and you'll never be asked for a copy of your QA Plan. Our clients expect us all to be on top of our game and we owe it to them to do our best. A Quality System is vital for our professionalism, credibility, and defensibility while lessening liabilities. Together we can continue to provide excellent measurement services, make our customers happy, and save lives!

The AARST Consortium continues to make improvements to measurement and quality assurance guidance. Please stay abreast of the changes and how they can help you. Upcoming text in the ANSI/AARST MAH, MA-MFLB, and MS-QA standards will contain changes regarding the submission of blanks and spikes. Spikes may be submitted directly from the radon chambers to the laboratories, but the known concentrations will not be reported to the labs until after analysis reports have been released. You'll see more guidance that encourages testers to share all QC results with the laboratories after analysis. Although some of the data will be secret before analysis, the measurement and QA standards committees want quality to become a true partnership between the laboratory and the testing professionals so that we are both doing all we can to maintain or improve quality for the benefit of our clients and for public health.





Oregon's RRNC Rule: Consistent Requirements, Limited Reach, Open Questions

Duane West, 3Rs Construction

Oregon has no statewide requirement for radon testing. No law requires a home to be tested before it is sold. But in seven counties, the state requires builders to install radon-reducing construction features in every new home (single-family and multifamily) and public building. This approach, Radon-Resistant New Construction (RRNC), places Oregon among a small group of states with a mandatory construction-based radon standard despite the absence of a companion testing law.

Statutory Basis

RRNC in Oregon is established under ORS 455.365, which requires new residences and public buildings, including schools, to incorporate RRNC methods in seven counties: Baker, Clackamas, Hood River, Multnomah, Polk, Washington, and Yamhill. These counties were designated based on elevated radon potential in underlying soils. This policy change, initiated by the Northwest Radon Coalition, took effect April 1, 2013; before that date, installation of passive radon-reducing systems was optional and varied by jurisdiction.

Construction Requirements

The standard is set out in Appendix F (Appendix AF in current code) of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code and includes:

- A gas-permeable sub-slab layer, typically clean aggregate, allowing soil gas to move freely beneath the foundation.
- A soil-gas-retarder membrane, generally 6-mil polyethylene or equivalent, with sealed, lapped seams over the sub-slab layer or crawlspace floor.
- Sealing of slab joints, cracks, and utility penetrations with polyurethane or elastomeric caulking to limit soil gas entry points.
- A solid PVC vent pipe, three or four inches in diameter, routed vertically through conditioned space and terminating at least twelve inches above the roofline.
- An electrical rough-in near the vent pipe, allowing for later installation of an inline fan to convert the system

from passive to active.

As installed, these systems operate passively, relying on pressure differentials rather than mechanical ventilation to direct soil gas outdoors. The electrical rough-in anticipates that a fan may need to be added if post-construction testing indicates elevated radon levels.

RRNC functions as a primary prevention strategy, reducing the likelihood of radon accumulation before a structure is occupied. Industry guidance is consistent on one point: RRNC construction “may” lower risk but does not eliminate it. Buildings built to RRNC standards can still register elevated radon levels, and post-construction testing remains the only method for confirming actual indoor radon concentrations in each structure.

A Construction Standard Without a Testing Mandate

Oregon's RRNC framework regulates the construction process rather than the real estate transaction. A statewide testing and disclosure requirement would involve oversight of testing protocols, laboratory certification, and point-of-sale enforcement. Instead, the state placed the requirement within the existing building code system administered by the Oregon Building Codes Division, applying it only in higher-risk counties — narrowing the mandate's scope but leaving post-construction testing outside the regulatory structure.

The most recent code re-adoption occurred October 1, 2023, with implementation of the 2023 Oregon Residential Specialty Code. That revision cycle changed energy efficiency and HVAC placement provisions, but the existing Appendix F radon requirements were carried forward without modification. This action missed the opportunity to update Oregon's radon requirement to Appendix AF, available with the 2021 edition of the International Residential Code, which includes a testing requirement.

The prior substantive revision came in 2017–2018, clarifying that exposed vertical PVC vent pipes require visual markers distinguishing them from plumbing or

• POLICY

wastewater lines. No additional counties have been added since the original seven were designated.

Potential Alignment with National Standards

Discussion within the radon and vapor intrusion community has raised the possibility that Oregon's code may begin referencing the national industry consensus standards for radon control in new single family and multifamily homes, ANSI/AARST CCAH and CC-1000, rather than maintaining a state-specific version of Appendix F. Such a change could align Oregon's requirements more closely with updated national guidance. No formal proposal has been adopted; any change would follow the standard code revision process.

Another possibility is to adopt Appendix BE after the 2027 edition of the International Residential Code is published, which would add the testing requirement and some other updates to the IRC radon appendix.

Oregon might also consider expanding RRNC to other counties. As of the 2027 IRC, the EPA radon zone county list, which suggested that only Baker, Clackamas, Hood River, Multnomah, Polk, Washington, and Yamhill counties had a radon issue, has been removed from the appendix. CDC data indicate that high levels of radon have been found in all but six of the state's 36 counties (and there has been no or little testing in these six).

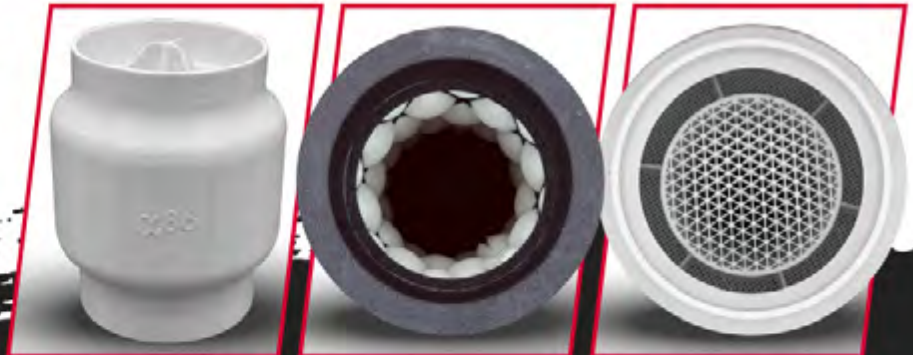
Legislative Intent and Implementation

ORS 455.365 established a clear legislative intent: reduce radon exposure risk through mandatory construction standards. Appendix F has remained part of the code since 2013 and was retained in the 2023 re-adoption, indicating consistent application of the construction requirement. A separate question concerns outcomes once construction is complete: because post-construction testing is not mandated, no regulatory mechanism confirms whether installed passive systems achieve low radon levels in occupied buildings. Whether complementary measures — testing education, outcome tracking, or incentive programs — are needed to close this gap remains a matter for industry stakeholders and policymakers to evaluate as the next code cycle approaches.

Summary

Oregon maintains one of the more comprehensive RRNC frameworks among states lacking a statewide testing mandate. New construction in seven designated counties must include passive radon-reducing features under a standard that has remained stable since 2013. Post-construction testing, while not required, remains the determining factor in confirming actual indoor radon levels in a given structure.

Sources: ORS 455.365; Oregon Residential Specialty Code, Appendix F (Radon Control Methods); Oregon Health Authority, Radon Program; Oregon Building Codes Division.



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FACT SHEET

2026 Colorado Radon Measurement and Mitigation Licensure Sunset Review

The Rocky Mountain Indoor Environmental Association (RMIEA) **SUPPORTS the continuation of Colorado's radon measurement and mitigation licensure program and recommends targeted statutory improvements** to strengthen enforcement and improve public health and consumer protections.

BACKGROUND & CURRENT STATUS

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that can accumulate in buildings and is a known cause of lung cancer. Colorado continues to have some of the highest radon levels in the United States, and radon mitigation remains a critical public health intervention.

Colorado's current licensure framework was enacted through HB21-1195, following the Department of Regulatory Agencies' (DORA's) 2019 Sunrise Review. This created an important foundation for consumer protection and industry standards.

The 2026 Sunset Review process provides an important opportunity for continued improvement in this program - specifically in the areas of enforcement authority, accountability mechanisms, and coverage of radon mitigation systems installed during new construction.

- **Eliminate Regulatory Gaps** - (1) Individual radon professionals are currently regulated. However, businesses are not, leaving a gap in consumer protection. (2) Current law does not adequately and clearly cover personnel who install radon mitigation systems during new construction or the applicable standards.
- **Increase Consumer Protection** - Ensure radon measurement and mitigation activities are reported to the regulatory authority.
- **Enhance Enforcement** - Colorado Revised Statutes allow for enforcement actions. However, these actions have not been implemented on a scale that's proportional to the problem.

RECOMMENDED REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS

RMIEA recommends targeted statutory improvements informed by national model legislation developed by the Indoor Environments Association (IEA). With these improvements, Colorado can continue to protect consumers while supporting a professional, qualified radon mitigation industry.

1. ELIMINATE REGULATORY GAPS

I. Include Regulation of Radon Business Entities

Currently, Colorado only requires individuals to be licensed. The IEA model legislation recommends licensing both individual professionals and business entities. Adopting similar provisions in Colorado would strengthen accountability within the industry. This approach would ensure that companies that provide radon services:

- Employ certified professionals
- Maintain required insurance coverage
- Comply with reporting and quality assurance requirements
- Are held accountable for employees' activities and compliance.

II. Include New Construction in Radon Mitigation Requirements

New home construction is a significant gap in the current regulatory structure and means there is no current mechanism to ensure mitigation systems installed in new homes function as intended. Capturing new home construction in the Colorado framework would be a **critical improvement**.

Potential approaches could include:

- Require compliance during new construction with national radon resistant and soil gas control standards, respectively ANSI/AARST CCAH and ANSI/AARST CC-1000
- Ensure clear and timely notification to building contractors and subcontractors (such as plumbers) regarding any compliance changes or expectations. These should come from the state regulatory authority and local building departments.
- Continue the use of licensed and certified radon mitigators to install systems during new construction.

2. REQUIRE REPORTING AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

The IEA model legislation also includes **requirements for professionals to report radon measurement and mitigation activities to the regulatory authority**. Many state radon programs include this, **along with reporting addresses of the properties receiving radon services**. This increases quality assurance of the services provided. Such information reported often includes:

- Radon measurement results
- Mitigation system installations and post-mitigation test results

Illinois has a robust program that has increased compliance with standards, tracking and data, along with funding to run the program. These reporting requirements have improved program oversight and enabled regulators to monitor industry compliance.

Implementing such program improvements in Colorado will enable the regulatory authority to conduct proactive inspections of buildings that have received radon services, as provided in CRS 12-165-112, and supplement complaint-based enforcement.

QUESTIONS ? Rachel Peterson, RMIEA | petersonr@agwco.com



Chapter Corner

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Annual Golf Tournament

RMIEA's Annual Golf Tournament was a great success! Held August 25 at Arrowhead Golf Club in Littleton, CO, the tournament brought together radon professionals, industry partners, and friends of RMIEA for a fun day of golf, networking, and camaraderie. With a beautiful course, great food, plenty of friendly competition, and some creative hole challenges, the event provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with colleagues while supporting RMIEA's ongoing efforts to promote radon awareness and protect indoor air quality. We appreciate everyone who participated, sponsored, volunteered, and helped make this year's tournament such a memorable event.

Happy Hour

June Happy Hour at Lazy Dog Restaurant & Bar in Westminster, CO was a great success, bringing together approximately 15-20 members from across Colorado's Front Range for an evening of networking, conversation, and collaboration. Attendees enjoyed reconnecting with colleagues while discussing important chapter updates, including the Colorado radon licensure sunset review process and plans for the upcoming annual golf tournament.

Webinar

RMIEA's Sunset Review Webinar on June 23 was well attended and generated thoughtful discussion about Colorado's ongoing radon measurement and mitigation licensure sunset review process. Participants received an overview of RMIEA's position on the importance of maintaining a strong licensure program while pursuing targeted improvements to strengthen enforcement, accountability, and consumer protections. We appreciate the engagement and look forward to continuing to work with our members and stakeholders throughout the sunset review process.

Regions 8, 9, & 10 Radon Stakeholder Meeting

The 2026 EPA Region 8, 9 & 10 Radon Stakeholder Meeting, took place August 13-14, 2026, in Denver, Colorado. This annual event brought together radon professionals, regulators, researchers, public health officials, and industry leaders from across the western United States to discuss emerging issues, share best practices, and strengthen partnerships that advance radon awareness and risk reduction. Additional continuing education opportunities were offered on August 14. RMIEA was proud to be a host.

INDIANA

World Lung Cancer Day Event

The Indiana Chapter of IEA participated in the World Lung Cancer Day event in Indianapolis, hosted by End Lung Cancer Now, which attracted more than 300 attendees. The Indiana Chapter was proud to distribute over 70 radon test kits, primarily to medical professionals and students from the IU School of Medicine—many of whom had never heard about radon or its connection to lung cancer. This event helped advance the mission of increasing radon awareness and educating healthcare professionals about this preventable health risk.

Webinar

The Indiana Chapter of IEA hosted a member webinar featuring staff from the Indiana Department of Health Radon Program, who provided an exclusive tour of Indiana's new online Radon Dashboard. Members learned how to use the dashboard's interactive maps, radon statistics, and public data tools, along with the searchable directory of Indiana's certified and licensed radon professionals. The new resource will be valuable for both industry professionals and the public.

VIRGINIA

Petition for Improved Regulation

A public hearing was held on the VA Chapter's petition to the Board of Professional Regulation (BOPR) in Richmond on June 16. April Leslie spoke regarding measurement and the need for regulation and the need to follow the ANSI-AARST standards. John Davis, Virginia Chapter of IEA President, spoke about the need for regulation from the mitigation side. John showed photographs of 10 different ways mitigations are done in a substandard manner. Online, Diane Swecker spoke about how other states handle the enforcement of regulations and Jane Malone illustrated ways enforcement could be handled in VA. At its August 10 meeting, the BOPR reviewed staff research and public input to decide whether to recommend regulation; John Davis and Jane Malone attended and addressed the board. The VA chapter has secured the services of lobbyist firm David Bailey Associates to pursue legislation to improve radon regulation in VA.

Updated Roster of IEA Chapter Leaders

IEA chapters connect IEA members at the state level or regionally through education, advocacy, and professional engagement.

FLORIDA CHAPTER

Florida

President: Dawn Oggier
Vice President: Laura Armul
Secretary: Mark Perry
Treasurer: Robert Melendez

HEARTLAND CHAPTER

Kansas • Missouri • Nebraska • Iowa

President: Wes Hodgden
VP — Kansas: Logan Lemkuhl
VP — Missouri: Cherie Summa
VP — Nebraska: Anthony Maeser
VP — Iowa: Tom Selgrade
Secretary: Ron Rupp
Treasurer: Kraig Kilton

INDIANA CHAPTER

Indiana

President: Jennifer Long
Vice President: Nick Wright
Secretary: Brandon Burris
Treasurer: Chris Rust

KENTUCKY CHAPTER

Kentucky

Chapter Leadership Update Pending

MARYLAND CHAPTER

Maryland

President: Mike Walther
Secretary: Lorin Stieff
Treasurer: David Leety

MIDWEST CHAPTER

President: Dan Potter
Vice President: Jim Emanuels
Secretary: Vicki Bhatt
Treasurer: Kirsten Schmidt

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

Connecticut • Maine • Massachusetts • New Hampshire • Rhode Island • Vermont

President: Michael Christophides
Vice President: Matt Hendrick
Secretary: Bryan Garrity
Treasurer: Jordan Clark
Board Members: Ed Beauregard, Shawn Price

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

New Jersey

President: Ashley Falco
Vice President: Jan Fisher
Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer: Tim Fisher

NEW YORK CHAPTER

New York

President: George Schambach
Vice President: Dennis Cole
Secretary: Chris DiPoalo
Treasurer: Annie-Laurie Hunter

NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER

North Carolina

President: Myca Bruno
Vice President / Treasurer: Katie Hubicki
Secretary: Cameron Butler

OHIO IEA CHAPTER

Ohio

President: Brenden Gitzinger
Treasurer: Jessica Karns
Board Members: Jodi Reitz, Bill Friend, Rod Berning, Wayne Porter

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER

Pennsylvania

President: Nathaniel L. Burden, Jr.
Secretary: Maria Stinger
Treasurer: Rich Malin
Directors: Aaron Fisher, Jackie Nixon, John Mallon

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

Colorado

President: Rachel Peterson
Vice President: Parker Herd
Secretary: Justin Daniels
Treasurer: Dawn Goard
Members at Large: Chad Smith, Zan Jones, Brent Ulbert

TENNESSEE CHAPTER

Tennessee

President: Phil McDonnell
Secretary: Jessi Moyle
Treasurer: Tonya Keen

TEXAS/OKLAHOMA — “TEXOMA” CHAPTER

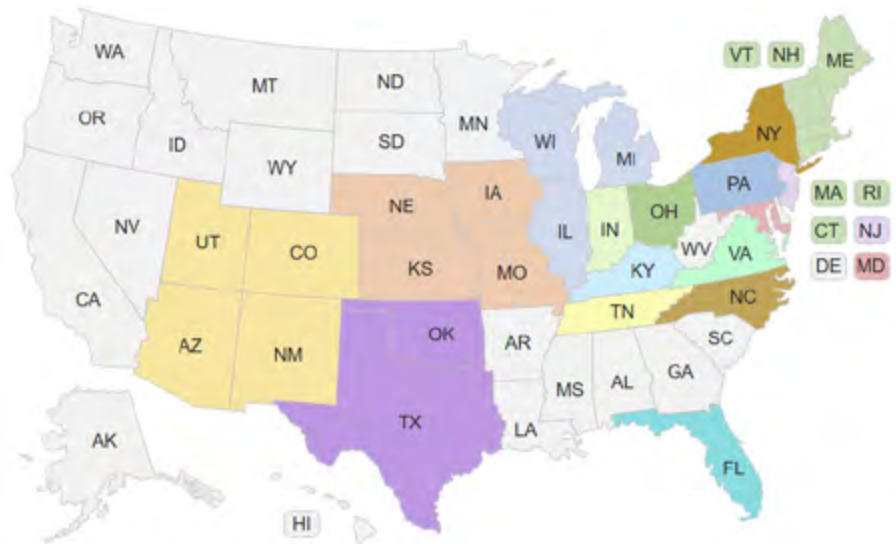
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President: Zan Jones
Vice President: Owen Reese
Secretary: Sarah Franco-Jaffe
Leaders: Ralph Madore, Joyce Madore
EPA Representative: George Brozowski
Tribal Representative: James Parsons

VIRGINIA CHAPTER

Virginia

President: John Davis
Vice President: Laura Neuroth
Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer: Vacant





Smoke Testing: A Valuable Diagnostic Tool for Today's VI Industry

Chris Ferguson, CHMM, MBA, Vapor Intrusion Specialists

Smoke testing has long been a trusted diagnostic technique in the radon industry, helping professionals visualize airflow, identify foundation cracks, and understand communication pathways. As the vapor intrusion (VI) field expands, smoke testing has become an equally valuable, yet often underutilized, tool for confirming building entry routes, evaluating mitigation system performance, and strengthening conceptual site models (CSMs). The visual clarity and real-time feedback make smoke testing an indispensable tool for both investigation and mitigation.

WHY SMOKE TESTING MATTERS IN VI WORK

Vapor intrusion investigation often presents unique challenges. VI contaminants and sources vary widely - chlorinated solvents, petroleum hydrocarbons, and other VOCs, each behave differently depending on the initial source of the release, soil conditions, building pressures, and chemical properties. Entry pathways can also vary greatly and can include intrusion through slab cracks, utility conduits, wall cavities, elevator shafts, abandoned tanks, and emanation from building materials.

Smoke testing helps answer the foundational questions: **From where and how are vapors entering a building?**

SMOKE TESTING MATERIALS AND METHODS

There are many types of smoke testing products available today. Some examples are:

- Smoke Pens and Matches
- Cold Smoke Bottles
- Electronic Smoke Generators
- Chemical Smoke Emitters

Each product has benefits and limitations that directly correlate to what type of smoke testing evaluation is being performed. The main scenarios where smoke testing is used can be separated into three broad and overlapping categories:

- New Construction
- Post Construction
- Preferential Pathway Investigation

SMOKE TESTING IN NEW CONSTRUCTION

The primary use of smoke testing in new construction is to identify any damage or leaks in the vapor barrier prior to the pouring of the concrete slab. This process typically involves using an electronic smoke generator to push smoke beneath the installed vapor barrier and inspecting for any visible smoke release. Any leaks or holes are then sealed with the appropriate material before removing the smoke generator and sealing the opening used.

Testing newly installed vapor barriers in this manner is an efficient qualitative means of assessing the competency of the vapor barrier prior to the pouring of the concrete. A successful smoke test is also a valuable part of the quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) process, which enables the installer to defend the quality of their work should post-construction evaluations indicate a vapor intrusion issue.

SMOKE TESTING IN POST CONSTRUCTION MITIGATION

Post construction mitigation can be described as any mitigation performed on an existing structure without a purpose-built vapor mitigation system incorporated into the building design. This is also commonly called "retrofit" mitigation. Smoke testing in the post construction scenario is typically performed during the initial building assessment and the post-mitigation QA/QC phases.

Initial building assessment smoke testing typically employs smoke pens, smoke matches, and/or cold smoke bottles to assist the mitigation professional as they evaluate the air flow patterns of the building. Evaluating variables such as HVAC influences, soil vapor migration from floor and wall features (gaps, cracks, holes, etc.), and exhaust features for building equipment are all made easier when visualized with low-volume smoke generators.

During the post-mitigation QA/QC evaluation, smoke is utilized to ensure that the mitigation system is adequately controlling the intrusion of soil vapors into the building and that the mitigation system is not causing observable back-drafting of combustion appliances. Smoke can also be utilized in conjunction with test points installed in the

• VAPOR INTRUSION

slab or barrier to qualitatively verify that the slab is being successfully held at a negative pressure differential with reference to the indoor air space – if the smoke is drawn into the test point, the system is generating a negative pressure differential.

SMOKE TESTING IN PREFERENTIAL PATHWAY INVESTIGATION

Sometimes during a building evaluation, it is determined that the source of the vapor phase contaminants (VPCs) is not through the soil gas but is migrating from a man-made preferential pathway. The most common of these is when a municipal sewer system and/or the associated backfill material acts as the source point for the contaminants migrating into the structure. Smoke testing is often the best means of quickly and efficiently evaluating these potential preferential pathways.

In the sewer system evaluation scenario, a large-volume smoke generator is first placed within the suspected preferential pathway. Once the smoke is generated, the building or buildings are then inspected to identify if any active preferential pathways are present within the structure. Typical features that are identified as entry points are untrapped floor drains, dry pea traps in unused sanitary fixtures, and cracked or broken sanitary plumbing. Once identified, these structural issues can be quickly repaired by a licensed contractor and the VI preferential pathway eliminated.

SMOKE TESTING AND THE CONCEPTUAL SITE MODEL (CSM)

A robust CSM is essential for any VI project. Smoke testing strengthens the CSM by:

- Revealing inconsistencies between assumed and actual building conditions
- Confirming preferential pathways
- Identifying communication zones that influence pressure field extension (PFE)
- Supporting decisions about suction point placement and fan sizing

In many buildings, especially older or modified structures, smoke testing may uncover hidden construction phases, variable fill, or unexpected subsurface voids that can significantly influence mitigation design. The visual evidence from a smoke test can provide the mitigation professional with the additional lines of evidence needed to support modifying the mitigation design to overcome the conditions present in the structure.

SMOKE TESTING CONSIDERATIONS

Prior to incorporating a smoke test into the project scope of work, it is recommended to perform the following:

- Conduct a safety review to ensure the smoke testing materials are appropriate for occupied spaces

- Establish the building pressure conditions by adjusting fans, doors, and HVAC systems
- Make a plan for introducing smoke into suspected pathways or sub-slab zones
- Determine how to document the smoke movement:
 - Video
 - Annotated photos
- Identify what additional data points are needed to interpret the site conditions:
 - Soil gas data
 - Building surveys
 - Historical information about the site and the surrounding area

While smoke testing is a qualitative method, it can provide immediate insight into airflow behavior, helping practitioners refine system designs before installation.

REGULATORY ACCEPTANCE

Regulators generally support smoke testing as a supplemental diagnostic tool. However, practitioners should take care not to overstate conclusions and only present smoke testing as evidence of **airflow behavior**, not contaminant movement.

WHAT SMOKE TESTING CAN - AND CANNOT - TELL YOU

SMOKE TESTING IS A USEFUL TOOL, BUT IT MUST BE USED APPROPRIATELY.

IT CAN:

- REVEAL CRACKS, BYPASSES, AND HIDDEN PATHWAYS
- DEMONSTRATE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ROOMS OR SLAB SECTIONS
- SHOW WHETHER A MITIGATION SYSTEM INFLUENCES AIRFLOW
- SUPPORT DECISIONS ABOUT SEALING OR SYSTEM LAYOUT

IT CANNOT:

- CONFIRM PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF CONTAMINANTS
- REPLACE CHEMICAL SAMPLING OR PRESSURE FIELD MEASUREMENTS
- PREDICT CHEMICAL ATTENUATION OR DEGRADATION

AS WITH EVERY DIAGNOSTIC TOOL, SMOKE TESTING SHOULD BE PART OF A MULTIPLE-LINE-OF-EVIDENCE APPROACH.

WHY RADON PROFESSIONALS ARE UNIQUELY POSITIONED

Radon mitigation professionals already understand building airflow, pressure dynamics, and sub-slab communication. These skills translate directly to VI mitigation. As the demand for VI services grows, radon professionals who have mastered smoke testing will be well-positioned to collaborate with environmental consultants, regulators, and building owners.

CONCLUSION

Smoke testing is a practical, visual, and highly informative tool for understanding vapor intrusion pathways and designing effective mitigation systems. While not a replacement for chemical sampling or pressure measurements, it provides essential insight into how vapors move through complex building environments. Smoke testing strengthens the conceptual site model, improves system design, and enhances communication with stakeholders.

REFERENCES

Vapor Barrier Smoke Test: [Smoke Testing | Aquatech Consultancy, Inc.](#)

Vapor Barrier Smoke Test: [How To Conduct Quality Control Procedures Using a Smoke Test Machine | EPRO](#)

Sewer Smoke test: [Smoke Testing: What Homeowners Need to Know](#)

Post-Construction Smoke Pen Test: [Airtightness Testing - HEAT, SPACE AND LIGHT LTD](#)





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SYMPOSIUM

Monday, October 5



Start	General Session
8:00	CC-1000 Roundtable Discussion. <i>Kyle Hoylman, Matt Koch, Tony McDonald, Dawn Oggier</i>
8:40	Why So Negative? <i>Wes Hodgden</i>
9:00	VI Legal Updates <i>David Gillay</i>
9:20	EPA OLEM / RCRA Update <i>Henry Schuver</i>
9:40	EPA Radon Program Update <i>Katrin Kral</i>

10:00 – 10:45 Break/Exhibits

Start	General Session	Vapor Intrusion Track
10:45	NRPP Update <i>Amy Roedl</i>	From Dry Cleaners to Gas Stations: Environmental Assessments, Historical Property Uses, Contaminants Behind Vapor Intrusion <i>Rachel Peterson</i>
11:05	Federal and State Policy Update <i>Jane Malone</i>	Radon and Vapor Intrusion Mitigation System Design for New Construction Large Buildings <i>David Hanley</i>
11:25	Radon Policy Updates in Commercial and Multifamily Buildings <i>Kyle Hoylman</i>	Sampling Indoor Air in Virginia Under the Voluntary Remediation Program <i>Julia Jenkins</i>
11:45	CDC Update <i>Germaine Vasquez</i>	Vapor Intrusion in Virginia: Three Decades, Thousands of Data Points, One Evolving Story <i>Cortney Marquette</i>

12:05 – 1:35 Lunch/Exhibits

1:35	Communicating with Confidence: Managing Tough Radon Questions <i>Shelley Laver</i>	2026 Wisconsin Vapor Intrusion Guidance - Updated Recommendations for Vapor Investigation & Mitigation <i>Jennifer Borski</i>
1:55	Challenges of Radon Sampling in Large Multi-Family and Multi-Building Complexes <i>Jane Rogers</i>	All About Smoke Tests <i>Tony McDonald</i>
2:15	Why 100% Ground Contact Testing in Commercial / Multifamily is Imperative <i>Myca Bruno, Brian Meyer</i>	Brownfields Case Study: Transforming a Historic Car Dealership into Multi-Family Housing via Vapor Mitigation <i>John Davis, Thomas Causey</i>
2:35	Where to Test in Commercial / Multifamily Buildings (10% vs 25% vs 100%) <i>Myca Bruno</i>	VI Technical Guidance Sunset <i>David Gillay</i>

2:55-3:40 Break/Exhibits

3:40	Standards Update <i>Gary Hodgden, Shawn Price</i>	Exploring Pressure Differentials in Residential and Commercial Buildings <i>Gunnar Barr</i>
4:00	Direct Soil Depressurization Radon Mitigation <i>Bill Brodhead</i>	The Case for Active VI Systems <i>Mark Quimby</i>
4:20	Institutionalizing Radon Education in North Carolina: Building a Data-Driven Framework for Policy Prevention <i>Phillip Gibson</i>	PFAS Vapor Intrusion: Application and Challenges <i>Travis Kline</i>
4:40	Ten Years of Optimal Mitigation Training: Lessons Learned & Blood Shed <i>Bruce Snead, Joshua Kerber, Chad Robinson</i>	(TBD)

Tuesday, October 6



Start	General Session
8:00	Funding Mitigation - CO and IA Programs <i>Margaret Horton, Randy Lane</i>
8:20	Sunrise - Sunset: Reviews of Credential Requirements in CO and VA <i>Rachel Peterson, John Davis</i>
8:40	E25 Update <i>Eleanor Divver</i>
9:00	QA Standard Update - Consumer Devices <i>Bob Coffee</i>
9:20	How To Address Weather/Building Conditions During Radon Measurement <i>Myca Bruno</i>
9:40	(TBD)

Tuesday, October 6			
10:00 – 10:45 Break/Exhibits			
Start	Practice Track	Science and Research Track	States and Tribes Track
10:45	Vapor Intrusion: Key Concepts for Radon Professionals <i>Dawn Coffee</i>	Changes in Radon Awareness and Testing Intentions: Risk Communication <i>Jessica Bradford</i>	Home Electronic Radon Equipment <i>Alexandra Bahadori</i>
11:05	Case Study: Failed Mitigation for an Entire Community <i>Gary Hodgden</i>	Indoor Air Radon Testing Rate and Socio-economic and Public Health Factors in GA <i>Uttam Saha</i>	
11:25	Creating Effective Floor Plans for Radon Diagnostics and Mitigation <i>Merritt Gantt</i>	Interventions to Increase Radon Testing of Homes: Clinical Trials of Best Practices <i>Soojung Kim</i>	Partnerships for Expanding Access to Home Radon Testing in Kansas <i>Susan Beckman, Karin Denes-Collar, Brian Hanson, Kristina Snyder</i>
11:45	Sealant Vapors <i>Mike Kitto</i>	(TBD)	Lending Library Radon Monitor Program <i>Star Jones</i>
12:05 – 1:35 Lunch/Exhibits			
1:35	Houses from Heck <i>Wes Hodgden, Merritt Gantt, Chad Robinson, Joshua Kerber</i>	Experiences from Repeated Measurements in Swedish Schools and Multi-Family Houses <i>Tryggve Ronnqvist</i>	Enhancing At-home Radon Test Kit Use: Program Analysis and Practices <i>Alexis Gigliello</i>
		The HVAC Factor: Radon Fluctuations, Non-Residential Building, Continuous Monitoring <i>Rachel Carter</i>	Minnesota Radon Test Kit Distribution Programs <i>Joshua Kerber</i>
		Radon Amongst Melting Permafrost in Alaska <i>Art Nash, Paul Goodfellow</i>	Bridging Horizons: NWBSN. Utah DEQ, Univ Utah: Radon Awareness <i>Jason Walker</i>
2:35	Home Radon Testing: Marketing Narratives, Public Awareness/Safety <i>Kai Wundke</i>	Elevated Outdoor Radon from Florida Phosphate <i>Bill Brodhead</i>	Radon Recognition and Reduction with the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska <i>Cody Barta</i>
2:55-3:40 Break/Exhibits			
3:40	Radon from Aggregate <i>Mike Kitto</i>	Assessing Permeability of Capped Electrets and Sensors Configured with L-Oo Chambers <i>Larry Welch</i>	Radon Data and Partnering with the WY Geological Survey <i>Randi Norton-Herrington</i>
4:00	Identifying Preferential Pathways over a Two-Story Open-Air Parking Garage <i>Matt Koch</i>	High-Res Diagnostic Mapping: Large-Scale CRM Deployment: School HVAC & Mitigation <i>Dallas Jones</i>	Small Ask. Big Impact. Through Your Medical Community <i>Chris Kelly</i>
4:20	The Retest Problem: How AI Helps Professionals Recapture Lost Revenue <i>Jackson Craythorne</i>	Active & Passive Radon Measurement Data to Better Decisions: European Perspective <i>Michael Westphal</i>	Reaching out about radon: timing and focus matters <i>Kristina Snyder, Stephanie Lehmkuhl</i>
4:40	The AI Tool Belt for Marketers: Practical AI for Growing Your Business <i>Peter Ruchti</i>	Toward Real-Start, Neighborhood-Scale Radon Prediction: NIH-Funded Study <i>Cristilyn Watkins</i>	Radon Safety & Public Outreach <i>Kerry Lewis</i>

Wednesday, October 7		
 Thank you and safe travels.	Start	General Session
	8:00	How to Show Up First in Your Local Market (without paying for ads) <i>Zan Jones</i>
	8:20	People, Systems & Stair-Stepping: How to Scale Without Becoming the Bottleneck <i>Curt Drew</i>
	8:40	Metrics for National Radon Poster Contest <i>Eleanor Divver</i>
	9:00	Radon Family Feud <i>Amy Roedel, Bob Coffee</i>
	10:00-10:20 Break	
	10:20	New Developments: RRNC Policies in IA and MN <i>Joshua Kerber, Randy Lane</i>
	10:40	Building Codes: What's Next <i>Kim Steves</i>
	11:00	Making the Case for RRNC to Builders and Other Stakeholders <i>Tommy Bowles</i>
	11:20	Exploring Barriers / Facilitators to RRNC in Affordable Housing in KY <i>Stacy Stanifer</i>
	11:40	Symposium Wrap / Evaluation <i>Diane Swecker</i>

FY27 Appropriations Update

No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

- US Constitution, Article I, Section 9, Clause 7

FY 27 Federal Appropriations News

Both the House and Senate advanced Continuing Resolution legislation to fund the federal government at the FY 26 level through December 11, and the President signed the bill. Work on the year-round bills continues in the Senate to culminate in conference reports and final bills.

EPA Appropriations Update

The House Appropriations Committee supported the House Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee's bill on June 3. **The bill provides level funding for the State Indoor Radon Grants program** despite the President's proposed elimination. The bill accepted the proposed 40% cut to the Office of Radiation and Indoor Air. IEA is redoubling its leadership of the effort to improve these numbers through the Senate bill and ultimate bipartisan conference report.

EPA Appropriations (Interior, Environment, Related Agencies)	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY 27 President Proposed	FY 27 House Report
State Indoor Radon Grants	\$9,130	\$9,130	\$9,130	\$0	\$9,130
Indoor Air and Radiation (IAR/ORIA)					
• Indoor Air: Radon Program	\$2,627	\$3,291	\$2,540	\$0	?
• Radiation: Protection	\$8,791	\$9,893	\$9,530	\$2,415	?
• Radiation: Response Preparedness	\$2,044	\$1,868	\$2,875	\$2,302	?
• Reduce Risks from Indoor Air	\$14,343	\$14,274	\$11,907	\$11,984	?
Total, Indoor Air and Radiation	\$27,805	\$29,326	\$26,852	\$16,701	\$16,701

FY 27 HUD Appropriations Update

The Indoor Environments Association GA team succeeded in adding to the FY27 House Transportation-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee's bill report language directing the Office of Housing / Federal Housing Administration to continue requiring radon testing and mitigation:

Radon testing requirements.—The Committee recognizes the importance of protecting tenants from radon exposure, the second leading cause of lung cancer, and encourages the FHA to continue the 2020 policy requirement for radon testing, and radon mitigation as needed, performed by Radon Professionals according to the applicable ANSI/AARST industry consensus standard.



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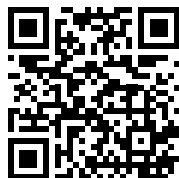


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Overview – NRPP Certifications

In previous issues of Radon Reporter, NRPP notified of the outcomes of the measurement and mitigation certification revalidation processes that NRPP undertook in 2024 and 2025 which resulted in changes to the current Radon Measurement Professional (RMP) and Radon Mitigation Specialist (RMS) certification requirements. The revalidation process involved regular meetings of committees of subject matter experts to review and update the following:

- The roles of the measurement professional and mitigation specialist
- The content and format of NRPP's certification examinations
- The requirements for initial certification
- The recertification interval and activities

The process included a validation survey to solicit feedback on the above, which many industry members completed. Survey results were used to guide the development of the new programs.

Because NRPP's certifications are designed to identify individuals who possess the knowledge and skills necessary to protect the public from the harmful effects of radon, NRPP revalidates its certification programs at regular intervals ensure that its certification requirements are aligned with (and assess) essential, job-related competencies.

NRPP is also developing three new certification programs. These are:

- Commercial Radon Measurement Professional
- Commercial Radon Mitigation Specialist
- Vapor Intrusion Mitigation Specialist

The development of these new programs and the revalidation of the current credentials resulted in a shift in NRPP's credentialing strategy:

The current credentials, the RMP and RMS, will certify individuals to measure or mitigate radon in single-family structures and individual dwellings within a shared structure that contain no more than four attached dwelling units on a contiguous foundation.

The commercial level credentials will certify individuals to measure or mitigate radon in multifamily, school, commercial and mixed-use buildings.

The RMFT and MI credentials will certify individuals to measure or mitigate radon in single family residential buildings and multifamily, school, commercial and mixed-use buildings under the supervision of a certified RMP or RMS.

The Mitigation Installer will be certified to mitigate VOCs under the supervision of a Vapor Intrusion Mitigation Specialist.

This article highlights the differences between the current and new certification requirements of the RMP and the RMS, expected to take effect in early 2027, and the transition process for individuals who are currently certified.

Radon Mitigation Specialist (RMS) Certification

Radon Mitigation Specialists design and install radon mitigation systems to reduce radon gas levels in single-family structures and individual dwellings within a shared structure that contain no more than four attached dwelling units on a contiguous foundation. They evaluate radon levels, assess the source(s) of radon entry, and customize the application of radon mitigation technologies to a particular structure to achieve effective radon reduction. They communicate with inspecting bodies and occupants, homeowners, and others who will operate the system, providing instructions for ongoing maintenance. They may also provide ongoing monitoring and maintenance to ensure the system continues to function properly and keeps radon levels low. They may provide general supervision and QA/QC oversight to Mitigation Installers.

Changes to Initial Radon Mitigation Specialist (RMS) Certification

Currently, to become certified as a Radon Mitigation Specialist, the candidate must complete coursework in both measurement and mitigation, pass an exam, agree to

RMS Initial Certification	Current RMS	New RMS
Initial training course(s)	16 hr. measurement 24 hr. mitigation	32 hr. mitigation
Exam	Part 1 RMI: 85 items + 10 pilot Part 2 RMS: 65 items + 5 pilot Total: 165 (150 scored + 15 pilot)	160 scored + 15 pilot Total: 175 items
Field Practicum	N/A	Yes
Code of Ethics	Yes	Yes
QA/QM attestation	Yes	Yes

a professional code of ethics, and confirm that they work under a quality management program. The table below shows these requirements and the requirements for RMS certification under the new, revalidated program.

Changes to the RMS certification include the following:

- The RMS candidate must complete a 32-hour mitigation training course prior to registering for the examination. Although the course length has increased from the 24-hour mitigation course currently required, the 32-hour course focuses on not only mitigation but also the essential measurement knowledge required for mitigation work, so the separate 16-hour measurement course is no longer required.
- RMS certification will require the candidate to complete a hands-on field practicum activity that

involves installing a mitigation system under the direction of an experienced mitigation specialist.

- The exam has increased to 160 scored items from 150 and is no longer a two-part exam. The new exam will focus more heavily on diagnostics than the current exam (28% of the exam versus 8%).

Changes to Radon Mitigation Specialist (RMS) Recertification

The table below shows the current requirements for recertification as an RMS and the recertification requirements under the new, revalidated RMS certification.

RMS Recertification	Current RMS	New RMS
Interval	Every 2 years	Every 2 years
4-hour Mandatory standards overview course	Yes	Yes
Continuing education hours (total)	8	20
CE can be earned through the following:		
• NRPP-approved technical courses	No limit	No limit
• Nontechnical courses	N/A	Maximum 4 CE
• Third-party technical courses		No limit
• Evaluation of work sample/system installation	N/A	Maximum 8 CE
• Professional technical conferences	No limit	No limit
• Standards or exam development volunteer work	N/A	TBD
• Professional events (current Category II)	Maximum 4 CE	Maximum 4 CE
Code of Ethics	N/A	Yes
QA/QM attestation	N/A	Yes

RMSs will continue to recertify every two years which includes completing a mandatory 4-hour standards overview course and participating in continuing education. RMSs must now agree to the NRPP Code of Ethics/Certification Terms Agreement and confirm they follow a quality management program upon recertification. Previously these documents were submitted for initial certification only but are now required when the RMS recertifies.

RMSs will be required to complete 20 hours of continuing education which may be earned through a variety of means. Although the number of CEs required for RMS certification has increased, options for earning CE have been expanded. In addition to completing NRPP-approved technical CE courses, RMSs will be allowed to take courses from third-party organizations with expertise in specific areas, such as OSHA, ASHRAE, and others. Available courses will be reviewed and listed on the NRPP website.

RMS certificants may also earn up to 8 CEs for continued work experience through submission of work samples.

RMSs may submit complete walk-throughs of up to 4 ASD systems they installed, which will be evaluated by an experienced RMS against ANSI/AARST SGM-SF. Two CEs will be awarded for each installation for a total of up to 8 CEs available for this activity.

RMSs may also earn up to four hours of continuing education by completing nontechnical courses that are designed to assist radon professionals in operating their businesses and contribute to a more well-rounded professional. Topics in this category include such things as sales and marketing, using social media, writing proposals and contracts, insurance, and business ethics.

An RMS may currently claim, and will continue to be able to claim, up to four hours of category II continuing education credits for participating in professional activities such as delivering a presentation at a radon-related conference, authoring radon-related articles, and attending radon-related events.

Changes to Initial Radon Measurement Professional (RMP) Certification

The table below shows the current requirements for RMP certification and the requirements under the new, revalidated RMP certification.

RMP Initial Certification	Current RMP	New RMP
Initial training course	16 hr. measurement	16 hr. measurement
Exam	Part 1 RMFT: 85 items + 10 pilot Part 2 RMP: 65 items + 5 pilot Total: 165 (150 scored + 15 pilot)	94 scored + 11 pilot Total: 105 items
Code of Ethics	Yes	Yes
QA/QM attestation	Yes	Yes
Device registration	DPT (device performance test) Calibration certificate	DST DPT
(for initial certification and when adding a new device to the certification account)		Calibration certificate (every 12 months)

The revalidated RMP certification includes the following:

- RMP candidates will still complete a 16-hour training course prior to registering for the examination.
- The exam has been reduced from 150 scored items to 94 and is no longer a two-part exam. Candidates must pass one exam assessing knowledge of activities the RMP performs before the radon test, during device placement and retrieval, and after the test. RMPs are also assessed on knowledge of quality assurance and chain of custody.
- RMPs will still register the devices they are or will be using to measure radon. This currently entails providing NRPP with evidence of a successful device performance test and recent calibration certificate (if using an analytical device) or a photo of (or receipt showing purchase of) a standard device. These requirements will remain under the new certification program, however both analytical and passive device users will complete a two-hour device specific training course that provides the RMP with an overview of how to use the device.

As is currently required, the above is to be completed for initial certification and any time a new device type is registered to an RMP's certification. The good news though, aside from having to submit an annual calibration certificate for each analytical device, is that there are no device requirements for recertification. After a device is initially registered and the above activities are completed, RMPs do not need to submit any further device-related evidence for that specific device model.

Changes to Radon Measurement Professional (RMP) Recertification

The table below outlines the current requirements for recertification as an RMP and the recertification requirements under the new, revalidated RMP certification.

RMP Recertification	Current RMP	New RMP
Interval	Every 2 years	Every 2 years
4-hour Mandatory standards overview course	Yes	Yes
Continuing education hours (total)	8	8
• NRPP-approved technical courses	No limit	No limit
• Nontechnical courses	N/A	Maximum 2CE
• Professional technical conferences	No limit	No limit
• Standards or exam development volunteer work	N/A	TBD
• Professional events (current Category II)	Maximum 4 CE	Maximum 4 CE
Code of Ethics		Yes
QA/QM attestation		Yes
Device registration	DPT or DST Proof of calibration	Proof of calibration

RMPs will continue to recertify every two years. They will still be required to complete a mandatory 4-hour standards overview course and participate in continuing education but must now agree to the *NRPP Code of Ethics/Certification Terms Agreement* and confirm they follow a quality assurance program too. Previously these documents were submitted for initial certification only but are now required each time the RMP recertifies.

RMPs will continue to complete 8 hours of continuing education for recertification. RMPs may currently claim, and will continue to be able to claim, up to four hours of category II continuing education credits for participating in professional activities such as attending radon-related conferences, meetings or events, delivering radon-related presentations, and authoring radon-related articles.

RMPs may also earn up to two hours of continuing education for completing nontechnical courses. These courses are designed to assist radon professionals in operating their businesses and contribute to a more well-rounded professional. Topics in this category include such things as leadership, sales and marketing, using social media, writing proposals and contracts, insurance, and business ethics.

Aside from providing proof of calibration every 12 months for each analytical device registered to the RMP's certification account, no additional device requirements must be met for recertification.

Changes to the Field Technician (RMFT) and Installer (MI) Certifications

Initial Certification Requirements

The initial certification requirements for Radon Measurement Field Technicians and Radon Mitigation Installers have been reduced. Under the revalidated programs, the responsibilities of each certification have been limited to include those specific to device placement and retrieval (RMFT) and ASD mitigation system installation (MI), but the scope of practice has been expanded: RMFT and MI's will be certified to work in single family residential buildings and in multifamily, school, commercial and mixed-use buildings. Please also note that the "R" has been removed from the RMI credential. Under the revalidated program, Mitigation Installers will be certified to install systems to mitigate both radon and VOCs so "Radon" was removed from the credential's name. Holders of both credentials will still work under the supervision of, and rely on the expertise of, a certified Radon Measurement Professional, Radon Mitigation Specialist or Vapor Intrusion Mitigation Specialist.

The training hour requirements for initial certification and the length of the exam have been reduced. Candidates will still agree to the Code of Ethics and report the names of their supervising RMP or RMS. RMFTs will be required to complete a two-hour device specific training for devices they will be using, however the supervising RMP remains responsible for ensuring the RMFT is proficient in using the device and remains responsible for device QA.



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RMI/MI Initial Certification	2019 RMI	2025 MI
Initial training course	12 hr. measurement 20 hr. mitigation	8 hr. mitigation
Exam	Total: 95 items 85 scored + 10 pilot	Total: 45 items 40 scored + 5 pilot
Code of Ethics	Yes	Yes
Supervisory reporting	Yes	Yes

RMFT Initial Certification	2019 RMFT	2025 RMFT
Initial training course	12 hr. measurement	8 hr. measurement
Exam	Total: 95 items 85 scored + 10 pilot	Total: 65 items 60 scored + 5 pilot
Code of Ethics	Yes	Yes
Supervisory reporting	Yes	Yes
Device specific training		Yes

Recertification Requirements

There are few changes to the requirements for RMFT and MI recertification under the revalidated certification programs. RMFTs and MIs will continue to recertify every two years. They will still be required to complete a mandatory 4-hour standards overview course and participate in continuing education. RMFTs and MIs must now agree to the NRPP Code of Ethics/Certification Terms Agreement and submit the Supervisory Reporting form upon recertification. Previously these documents were submitted for initial certification only but are now required when applying for recertification.

RMFTs and MIs will continue to complete 4 hours of continuing education for recertification. Options for continuing education include completing NRPP-approved technical courses and attending technical meetings and conferences. A maximum of 2 CEs can be earned by participating in professional activities such as delivering a radon-related presentation, volunteering at a radon-related event, and authoring a radon-related article. The tables below contain the recertification requirements for RMFTs and MIs.

RMFT Recertification	2019 RMFT	2025 RMFT
Interval	Every 2 years	Every 2 years
4-hour Mandatory standards overview course	Yes	Yes
Continuing education hours (total)	4	4
• NRPP-approved technical courses	No limit	No limit
• Professional technical conferences	No limit	No limit
• Professional events (current Category II)	Ineligible	Maximum 2 CEs
Code of Ethics		Yes
Supervisory reporting		Yes

MI Recertification	2019 RMI	2025 MI
Interval	Every 2 years	Every 2 years
4-hour Mandatory standards overview course	Yes	Yes
Continuing education hours (total)	4	4
• NRPP-approved technical courses	No limit	No limit
• Professional technical conferences	No limit	No limit
• Professional events (current Category II)	Ineligible	Maximum 4 CEs
Code of Ethics		Yes
Supervisory reporting		Yes

Transitioning to the New Requirements

The revalidated measurement and mitigation certification programs will go into effect on January 4, 2027. On and after this date, anyone seeking NRPP certification must meet the new program requirements. Individuals who have completed training, passed the exam, and started an application by this date will be provided with a grace period no later than March 31 during which the completed application may be submitted. Individuals who wish to become certified but have not initiated an application by the start date will be required to apply under the new program requirements.

Individuals who are currently NRPP certified will be rolled onto the new program recertification requirements following a transition plan based on their certification's

expiration date. Transition plans will be communicated to certificants in the upcoming months.

Transitioning individuals who hold RMP, RMFT and MI certifications requires them to sign the NRPP Code of Ethics/Certification Terms Agreement and either the QA/QM Attestation form (RMPs) or the Supervisory Reporting form (RMFTs and MIs) when the individual recertifies.

Individuals who are currently RMS certified must sign the NRPP Code of Ethics/Certification Terms Agreement and the QA/QM Attestation form, and obtain more CE since the number of CEs required to maintain the credential has increased. (See above for how mitigators CE options have been increased). NRPP will notify RMSs regarding their individual transition requirements.

In-Person NRAP Leadership Council Meeting in Washington, D.C.

The NRAP Leadership Council gathered in Washington, D.C. on June 24–25 for its annual in-person strategic planning meeting, bringing together member organizations to assess progress and set priorities for advancing radon risk reduction nationwide. The IEA, working alongside the American Lung Association, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and numerous public and private partners, helps advance the goals of the National Radon Action Plan (NRAP), a collaborative framework to reduce radon-induced lung cancer. NRAP aims to eliminate preventable radon-induced lung cancer through established ambitious national goals to find, fix, and prevent high indoor radon levels in 8 million buildings by 2025, preventing an average of at least 3,500 radon-induced lung cancer deaths each year.

The Council's agenda focused on understanding current requirements, strengthening partnerships, and

identifying priority actions for FY27. Members examined how state cancer control plans incorporate radon, reviewed trends in radon-resistant new construction, and discussed opportunities to enhance radon risk reduction in multi-family housing programs. Jane Malone, IEA National Policy Director, presented an overview of RRNC adoptions by state and locality and a comparison of HUD radon policies, specifically the differences between FHA Multifamily Lending requirements and HUD departmentwide approaches. These insights helped clarify where radon protections are already embedded and where additional alignment or advocacy may be needed. IEA was also represented at the meeting by GA Committee Chair and Vice President Kyle Hoylman and Executive Director Diane Swecker.

Work groups met to refine FY27 action plans, assessing barriers and facilitators from the past year and outlining



• POLICY

adjustments to accelerate progress. Members also reviewed existing radon resources and discussed strategies to expand distribution, reach priority audiences, and identify areas where new tools or guidance may be required. The conversations emphasized coordinated awareness efforts and the importance of cross-sector collaboration to advance radon risk reduction in all communities.

The meeting concluded with a forward-looking strategy session, where the Council outlined opportunities to strengthen partnerships, elevate radon in national conversations, and support states and housing programs in implementing effective interventions. With updated work group plans and clearly defined priorities, the Leadership Council left Washington energized for FY27, continuing the shared mission to reduce radon risk and protect families nationwide.

HUD Radon Policy Comparison

	FHA Multifamily Lending: Section 9.6.3, 2020 MAP Guide	HUD Department-Wide Policy: Notice CPD-23-103
Certification and Licensure Requirements	Required: Qualified professional certified by an EPA-recognized proficiency program and, if applicable, licensed by state to provide all testing and mitigation.	No requirement for qualified professional
Initial Testing Requirements	Required: ANSI-AARST MA-MFLB 2023*, which includes screening not less than 100% initial testing of residential and non-residential ground contact areas and not less than 10% of upper floor residential areas in each building.	"Recommended Best Practice: follow standards." Permitted Options: 1. In a one- to four-unit building, use do-it-yourself test kits; read and follow manufacturer instructions. (No standard) 2. In a remote area, public agency purchase "radon monitoring equipment" and train staff to use it in accordance with manufacturer instructions; ensure "proper" QC and QA practices. (No standard) 3. No test, review local radon test data (except the EPA map). a. If average test data above EPA action level, mitigate (but HUD recommends testing to be sure). b. If average test data below EPA action level, don't mitigate. c. If existing local data includes fewer than 10 tests over a 10 year period, don't mitigate.
Buildings with Existing Mitigation Systems	All existing mitigation systems installed must be evaluated to ensure that they function properly; if applicable, corrective action must be taken by a qualified radon professional.	Exempt from testing if radon levels tested below 4 pCi/L within two years of HUD assistance application or environmental review and ongoing maintenance plan requires periodic testing.
Resident & Responsible Party Notifications	Required: ANSI-AARST MA-MFLB 2023	No requirement.
Mitigation Standards	Required: ANSI-AARST SGM-MFLB 2023	Mitigation plan required. No requirement to follow standard but if using ANSI-AARST standard, follow it to draft mitigation plan.
Post-Mitigation Testing Requirements	Required: ANSI-AARST MA-MFLB 2023, to include 100% of all ground contact residential and non-residential areas, and not less than 10% of upper floor residential areas, in each building on the mitigation plan.	Mitigation plan must include post-mitigation testing. No minimum requirement. No requirement to follow standard.
Operation, Maintenance and Monitoring Requirements	Required: ANSI-AARST SGM-MFLB 2023, to include ongoing management for the duration of the insured mortgage when an active mitigation system is installed.	Required "whenever possible." If using ANSI-AARST standard, follow its guidance to draft operation, maintenance and monitoring plans for active systems.
New Construction Requirements	Required: ANSI-AARST CC-1000 2018-0523, with installation of passive soil gas control system and post-construction clearance testing per ANSI-AARST MA-MFLB 2023.	No requirement for installation of passive soil gas control system. Required: post-construction testing, mitigation if needed.

*HUD requires reliance on the most recent edition in force or superseding document

A Seat at the Table: How to Join an AARST Consortium Standards Committee

The AARST Consortium on National Standards is refreshing its volunteer roster, and for the first time, its intake form is asking specifically about Vapor Intrusion experience alongside Radon-specific experience questions.

Ten active ANSI/AARST standards are published and under a program for continuous maintenance. These plus new projects that will be published in 2027 bring the total to twelve standards that govern radon measurement, mitigation, new construction, and post-mitigation management, of which six are directed at vapor intrusion. Two new additional projects specific to vapor intrusion evaluation will begin in 2027. Keeping that library current takes a steady pipeline of qualified volunteers, and the Consortium is inviting practitioners to apply.

Here's how the process works, from application to seating.

Start with the online application

Participation begins with a public application posted on the AARST standards website. The form collects contact and affiliation information, then walks applicants through two experience sections. The radon section has long asked applicants to rate their years of experience across activities such as measurement, mitigation, new construction, OM&M, and regulatory or laboratory work. As of the 2026 update, a matching section now asks about Vapor Intrusion experience - covering VI sampling, existing and new-construction mitigation, risk communication, design, research, and related fields so that volunteers with a VI background can be routed to the committees that need them.

Applicants close out the form by selecting one committee of preference - among them Radon Measurement, Mitigation, OM&M, Radon QA, Radon in Water, New Construction, VI Measurement, and the Executive Stakeholder Committee, and noting any interest in chairing, technical writing, or providing administrative support.

What reviewers look for

A joint review committee representing AARST's Standards Management Council (SMC) and the Executive Stakeholder Committee (ESC) evaluates every applicant against four criteria: relevant field experience, technical expertise in the committee's subject matter, the ability to engage diplomatically in a consensus process, and the need to keep each committee balanced across interest-group categories such as government/regulatory, measurement and mitigation practitioners, manufacturers, and general/consumer interests.

Applicants who are tentatively seated will now receive written confirmation within 30 days of accepting their seat. Those not seated are notified as well, within 90 days for new or repopulated committees, or 60 days if a standing committee is already underway, and provided information on how to appeal, where rosters are posted, and the potential for an invitation to fill a vacancy or serve in a role different from that originally requested. Applications remain on file and valid for three years.

Ready to apply? The application form to request participation is posted publicly on the [AARST standards website](#), along with details on committee assignments and the seating process.

THE 3-YEAR RENEWAL CYCLE FOR EACH STANDARD

- YEAR 1** PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE EXISTING STANDARD.
- YEAR 2** REPOPULATED COMMITTEE REVIEWS AND UPDATES THE STANDARD.
- YEAR 3** COMMITTEE PREPARES AND PUBLISHES THE UPDATED VERSION.

BY THE NUMBERS

- 10** ACTIVE ANSI/AARST STANDARDS
- 3** NEW STANDARDS IN DEVELOPMENT

WHO REVIEWS APPLICATIONS

A JOINT SMC/ESC REVIEW COMMITTEE, REPRESENTING AARST'S STANDARDS MANAGEMENT COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE.

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The IEA Sponsors & Advocates Program offers two complementary ways for organizations and individuals to support national progress in indoor environmental health. The Sponsors Pathway is designed for companies seeking elevated visibility and year-round brand alignment with IEA's mission. Sponsors reinforce their leadership by supporting the technical, educational, and outreach work that drives industry excellence. Through tiered sponsorship levels, participants gain prominent exposure across IEA publications, digital platforms, and events, positioning their organizations as committed champions of healthier indoor environments.

By joining as a Sponsor, organizations help sustain the technical foundation that underpins the radon and vapor intrusion field. Their support strengthens IEA's ability to deliver science-based, practical standards, professional training, and public-facing resources that advance indoor environmental health nationwide. This pathway is ideal for those who want their brand to stand alongside the nation's leading indoor air quality initiatives while contributing to meaningful, measurable impact.

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The Advocates Pathway engages individuals and organizations who want to support policy and regulatory progress such as advancing ANSI/AARST standards into laws, building codes, and professional practice and ensuring radon and vapor intrusion protections remain a public health priority. A central component of this pathway is promoting proficiency and regulation through certification, helping states and federal agencies adopt credentialing requirements that ensure qualified professionals are performing radon and vapor intrusion services. This alignment strengthens public health protections and reinforces science-based decision-making across the industry.

Advocates help translate technical standards and competency requirements into real-world protections for millions of occupants. Their engagement supports stronger state and federal programs, expands awareness among policymakers, and drives enforcement of best practices across the indoor environmental health sector. For those seeking to influence national and state policy to create lasting change, the Advocates Pathway provides a structured, high-impact avenue to advance public health and strengthen the nation's indoor air health infrastructure.

Bridging Real Estate and Public Health: A Conversation on Radon Awareness

Setting the Scene

Radon — an invisible, odorless radioactive gas — has quietly shaped conversations around indoor air quality and home safety for decades. Yet, as properties exchange hands across the country, many real estate transactions still stumble over uncertainty and misinformation about how to test, disclose, or mitigate this hidden hazard.

Daisy Rezende sat down with two professionals with distinct yet complementary perspectives: Bob Pettis, a realtor and educator in Montgomery County, Maryland, and Phillip Gibson, North Carolina's Radon Program Coordinator and an experienced real estate broker.

Together, they explored how different states address radon notification and disclosure, what challenges professionals face, and how education and standardization can strengthen consumer trust.

"Education is Where the Rubber Meets the Road"

Rezende: Bob, you've been teaching radon legislation courses to agents for several years. How have attitudes shifted since Montgomery County introduced mandatory testing?

Pettis: Time really helps. When the Montgomery County law took effect around 2015–2016, agents saw it as just another layer of regulation. Many didn't understand the science — they just feared it would slow down sales. Over time, as education increased and training became part of continuing education, things normalized. People learned radon isn't a death sentence for a deal; it's simply a part of the process.

Rezende: So the key was demystifying the issue?

Pettis: Exactly. The biggest challenge was getting real estate professionals to see testing not as a burden, but as a consumer protection step. Once agents realized most homes could be easily mitigated, the anxiety went down. Now, it's routine — test, disclose, and move forward.

Radon as a "Material Fact"

Rezende: Phillip, North Carolina takes a different approach — radon testing isn't mandatory, yet the Real Estate Commission considers a level of four picocuries per liter or above a material fact. How does that affect transactions?

Gibson: The distinction matters. A material fact means that if a test has been done and results show elevated

levels, it must be disclosed until further testing proves otherwise. Even though testing isn't required by law, the professional responsibility remains. Brokers who fail to disclose can face disciplinary action, as we've seen happen.

Rezende: So proactive professionals can get ahead by simply following best practices?

Gibson: Absolutely. We've developed a four-hour continuing education course for realtors on this very topic. Thousands have taken it since 2017. The takeaway is simple: radon is manageable. Testing is quick, mitigation is affordable, and clear documentation builds trust.

"It All Comes Down to Trust"

Rezende: Both of you have mentioned trust several times — between agents, clients, and contractors. How does certification fit into that?

Pettis: In Montgomery County, contracts require using certified professionals — through organizations like NRSB or NRPP — to ensure consistency and reliability. That removes disputes about test validity. But outside of Montgomery County, Maryland doesn't require certification, which means unqualified people can do the work. That's risky.

Gibson: In North Carolina, the state doesn't certify radon contractors either, but we push for consumer awareness. We encourage clients to ask whether professionals follow the ANSI/AARST standards and to get that commitment in writing. It's not just a formality — it provides legal protection if something goes wrong later.

The Cost of Ignorance vs. the Price of Prevention

Rezende: Buyers often see radon as a complication. What happens when they find high levels?

Pettis: Most sellers now just fix it. They prefer closing smoothly over offering a credit that may cause lender issues. Mitigation typically takes 10 to 15 days. It's usually about the cost of a new appliance — and buyers feel more comfortable moving in knowing it's been addressed.

Gibson: Right, it's about perspective. You're not just paying for a pipe and fan; you're investing in health. Radon causes lung cancer, and solving it costs less than a refrigerator. The real hurdle isn't price — it's awareness.

Data, Policy, and the Road Ahead

Rezende: Phillip, you've mentioned measuring program impact statewide. How has public radon awareness trended?

Gibson: Tremendously upward. Since 2015, we've seen a 30–40% increase in radon knowledge among North Carolina residents. The state's Cancer Control Plan now lists radon as a priority, and counties use radon data in community health assessments. We even publish test data in a state portal so local health departments can track testing rates and set goals. It's empowering communities to take ownership of their indoor environments.

Ethical Standards — and Moral Responsibility

Rezende: When laws vary so much across states, what can ensure consistency nationwide?

Gibson: Contracts can reference ANSI/AARST standards as the default. This gives consumers and professionals clear benchmarks. Education fills the rest of the gap.

Pettis: Exactly. Agents need to internalize that protecting clients isn't just regulatory — it's ethical.

Closing Thoughts

Rezende: If you could each change one thing about how radon is handled in real estate transactions, what would it be?

Pettis: More education. Every buyer and agent should understand what radon is, what it isn't, and why it matters. Confidence beats fear every time.

Gibson: Clear communication. Professionals should speak about radon the same way they talk about an electrical upgrade or plumbing issue — with competence, not alarm. When professionals convey assurance, consumers respond with trust.

A Call to Action

As this conversation made clear, the path to safer homes is built on awareness, education, and integrity. With better communication among real estate agents, certified radon professionals, and public health officials, the anxiety around radon can transform into empowerment and protection for every homebuyer.



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NRPP Certification Spotlight: Christopher Rust

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Greenwood, Indiana

Company:

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WHAT CERTIFICATION(S) DO YOU HAVE?

RMS / RMP / SGM-CI

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING IN RADON?

One year

DESCRIBE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND HOW YOU GOT INTO RADON MITIGATION/ MEASUREMENT?

I have worked in construction for a decade now and on a job a year ago a fellow tradesman suggested I look into Radon. I had no clue what it was and once I completed my certifications through CERTI, I was sold. I soon joined the Indiana Chapter for the Indoor Environments Association, felt like a trailblazer. Working with fellow professionals who share the same desire to ensure the lung health of our fellow residents in our state are educated on radon and tackling the misconceptions of radon within the real estate and construction industries.

DESCRIBE WHAT A TYPICAL WORKDAY LOOKS LIKE.

I work with a lot of grant administrators who are in charge of Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation (OOR) grants through an organization called the Office of Rural & Community Affairs (OCRA) to bring residents within rural parts of the state a better quality of life through upgrades such as roofing, electrical, water heater, HVAC, and of course Radon. I stay competitive with testing and mitigation for the counties and cities within these grants so that funds can be used efficiently to protect tax dollars and the quality of life for these residents. Outside of these grants, I work with local brokers through "lunch & learns" or simple 30 minute talks on radon and how they can educate their buyers and sellers to limit confusion, risk, and tension. I also write a monthly newsletter on LinkedIn called, "Your Radon Guy", where I educate anything that pertains to radon and the industry.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WORKING IN THE RADON PROFESSION?

I enjoy the fact that through our work we are giving back. There's a sense of serving the homeowner in their quality

of life through helping them discover the concentrations and mitigating if necessary. Giving them peace of mind for themselves and their loved ones.

ANY CHALLENGES SO FAR? IF SO, EXPLAIN.

Mostly the challenges have been lack of education and the battle with local lawmakers to change legislation that benefits the community. Regardless, our chapter and individually, are working to be "boots on the ground" to educate, inform, and push on to spear the word on radon to tackle it in our community.

WHEN DID YOU FIRST GET CERTIFIED?

December 2024 I was certified in measurement and in May 2025, I became certified in mitigation.

WHY DID YOU GET CERTIFIED?

I was sold on the opportunities that radon presents in this industry. It is still a niche but growing to become a real national trade that others will want to join.

WHY NRPP?

The brand, the ease of navigation, and the resources to us professionals.

WHAT BENEFIT(S) DID CERTIFICATION BRING?

The ability to become state-licensed, open a new business, and endless opportunities to serve my state.

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

Do it and don't look back. Take on the challenges and have fun with it.

ANY ADVICE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE CONSIDERING CERTIFICATION?

Get it yesterday. The courses are informative and challenging, but worth every bit to be the professional the industry needs you to be.

Newest IEA Members

May

Christian Serediuk (IL), Christopher Pippin (GA), Dustin Yancy (GA), Gilbert Aguilar (CO), Jeff Brannon (WA), Marcel Gamache (NH), Matthew D Barber (NY), Michael Robicheau (NH), Nick Hamaker (CA), Sam Payne (NE), Scott Biller (VA), Steve D Hart (KY), Wesley Terry (NM), William C Purcell (GA)

June

Ammon J Saurey (ID), Brandon Burris (IN), Brian R Luy (CO), Bryan Renner (MO), Daryl Wockenfuss (ND), David Cousins (IA), Dixie L Weidman (WI), Jane Rogers (MN), Joe D Docter (MO), Lisa L Ratliff (MI), Michael Russell (KS), Nicholas J Guyett (NY), Peter Gregory Hertzog II (CO), Ralph Cabal (FL), Sheryl E Davidson (AL), Thomas O'Brien (MO)

July

Aaron C West (PA), Andrew Scholl (CO), Brian R Powell (CA), Christopher J Weingartner (FL), Corby Shields (WY), Ernest Huang (OH), Howard M Falkow (NJ), Matthew A McCubbin (IA), Philipp Mueller (OH), Sungsik Joh (KO)



MEMBER TESTIMONIAL



CHERIE SUMMA
St. Louis Radon Test & Mitigation

"Being a member of the IEA has been incredibly valuable throughout my years in the radon industry. The education and industry resources are important, but what I value most is the network of professionals who are willing to share their knowledge and experience. In an industry like ours, having a strong organization that brings us together, keeps us informed, and helps us all improve is invaluable."



INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS ASSOCIATION

To join today, visit:
<https://indoorenvironments.org/>

Newest NRPP Certified Professionals

May

Alejandro Cortes (UT), Alexis Arnold (NC), Alina M. Iorgoni (CA), Ashley Boshea (CO), Austin T Robinson (VA), Bailey J Zimmerman (CO), Bradley P Michie (VA), Charles A Mcilvoy (KY), Chris T Medill (SD), Christian Pelat (KY), Christopher A Bishop (MA), Collin A Parrow (NY), Damien M Pearch (NV), Daniel J Logar (CO), Daniel Vogt (CO), Darrin McMasters (KY), Dwight W Chew (VA), Elisha M Mulinga (ND), Eric G Parker (CO), Eric McKee (VA), Erica Marcos (MI), Erik Alexander (NY), Frank Biskup (NJ), George Cowburn (NY), Gheorghe Marc (CO), Giribala Ravikumar (IL), Jake p Gilhousen (MN), Jakob W Robertson (MO), James E Luna (CA), Jared A Embree (OH), Jared Watkins (CO), Jeff Brannon (WA), Jeffrey Kiser (MO), Jeremy Nguyen (CA), Jody G Marble (TN), John A Brite (OH), John Bond (IN), Jonathon K Rogers (MD), Jonie Marie P Dela Cruz (GU), Jordan A Watts (MT), Joseph L Finken (CO), Joseph W Kehl (WI), Josiah M Foster (CO), Kamdyn Z Mctee (UT), Kaycie Poyner (AZ), Kevin Foley (KY), Kevin T Murphy (OH), Kimberly Knight (CO), Lance Erhart (IN), Lillian A Todd (MA), Luke A Jorae (MI), Lyndsey Gantert (CO), Michael W Morgan (CO), Mohammed-Nazih Hussein (TX), Nadia A. Holm (GU), Nathan D Schubert (CO), Nicholas Wlodarczyk (WI), Noah Rhodes (WI), Parker Rowland (VA), Philip Dane (IA), Rebecca Vicaretti Serrano (NY), Robert R Byrnes (VA), Robyn Parkinson (CO), Ruben Irizarry (PR), Ryan J Yazzie (AZ), Ryan K Mathews (WA), Scott Reimann (CO), Shaun Dolley (CO), Shawn Jaeger (CO), Shawn Martinez (CO), Spencer C Saunders (VA), Taylor Hayes (CO), Timothy J Parkey (CO), Wayne L Evans (KY), William Luka (VA), Yury Listapad (MA)

June

Anthony Villerreal (IA), Arthur Kucharski (IL), Avi Kotek (MD), Bayonna A Brown (CO), Brady Metzger (MI), Bryce Carr (IA), Caleb Bell (WA), Candace S Bray (CO), Carlo J Torres (CA), Chris Thiessen (NV), Christopher D Beros (CO), Christopher Ian Durell (CA), Dana Renay (IN), Daniel Frayman (CA), Daniel Karako (CO), Dante Wydra (CO), David J Fitzell (WA), Eleni Kiliaris (MI), Eric Jannsen (MA), Eric Park (TX), Eugene Fercodini (CT), Gabriel M Macias (CA), Grace A Purcell (GA), Griffin Sturdevant (SD), Hans Wammel (CO), Ian R Goodrich (NE), Isaac Amabile (CO), Ivan Alejandro Molina (GA), Jacob Spainhour (VA), James Brown (CA), James R Kirby (UT), Jasper T Ronneberg (CO), Jayden D Allen (VA), Jeff Guyton (MI), Jesse Dransfield (CO), Jessica J Lustyk (MI), John Atkinson (OH), John J Pellegrino (MD), Joseph Gangidino (NJ), Joshua Johnson (CO), Joshua McPherson (OR), Justin Lighton (NC), Kyle Bratcher (TN), Kyle N Dever (OR), Laura L Bouley (RI), Mark A Jones (CO), Michael Armbrister (VA), Michael D Mastalka (CO), Michael LeFever (NY), Noah Hook (MD), Robert Hansen (GA), Roger Spalding (KY), Sean O'Connor (DE), Taylor Heath (OK), Thomas Lichtenstein (MO)

July

Adam Frodge (CO), Alexander Eickhoff (IN), Allison M Mastenbrook (MN), Andrew S Barakian (MA), Anthony Villerreal (IA), Arthur R Lewis (KY), Bradley R Johnson (IN), Brett Bonora (MI), Chelsea Monaco (NY), Christopher J Weingartner (FL), David Forrand (RI), Diego Diez de Bonilla (CA), Gheorghe Marc (CO), Gregory Pucci (MI), Isaiah Brown (MN), Jack D Castleman (CO), Jacob C Kruger (CO), Jacob Walton (PA), James D Fisher (TN), Jared Zenger (UT), Jason Bryson (CA), Jim D Rowley (CO), Joana Lara Torres (TX), Joe D Docter (MO), Jonathan L Comeaux (NC), Joseph Shepherd (IA), Joseph Tyler Allbritton (GA), Joseph Zaheer (NY), Joshua L Kleider (CO), Jovan V Amaya Flores (CO), Jue Ning (MA), Kelley E Mathys (CA), Kelsey Pratt (CO), Kristofer M Hendrickson (NY), Kyle P Wilkins (KY), Mark Brewer (CO), Mark Pettit (NC), Matthew A McCubbin (IA), Matthew E. Habib (IL), Michael H Samet (VA), Michael Zamora (CO), Miguel Rivera (CO), Nathan D Devenberg (UT), Paul Van Pernis (TN), Peter L Martin (NY), Philip Thompson (VA), Phillip G Hotella (OK), Preston L Steele (ND), Richard Sylva (MA), Ricky L Pence (VA), Ronald Galloway (TN), Ryan Blundon (WI), Sammy Brown (WV), Scott Alan Franklin (MA), Sean M Cronmiller (NY), Seyed-Ali Mousavi (NC), Shelby Hendrix (CA), Sungsik Joh (KO), Tanner Beene (NE), Tetyana Onyshko (CA), Timothy Harmon (IA), Trevor Haefke (CO), Troy M Reny (ME), Tyler M Hauska (CO), Yuliia Varyan (IL)

STANDARDS

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