



BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Office of the Secretary
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110
Telephone (505) 827-2855
Fax (505) 827-2836



RON CURRY
SECRETARY

DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE
DEPUTY SECRETARY

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Immediate Release

Contact: Michael A. Taylor, NMED Radon Program
Phone: (505) 827-1093
Contact: Jon Goldstein, NMED Communications Dir.
Phone: (505) 827-0314

Environment Department Offers Free Home Owner's Radon Class

(Santa Fe, NM) — The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) will offer a free radon class at the Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) to help educate the public about the nation's second leading cause of lung cancer. **The free Home Owner's Guide to Radon class will be held Thursday, March 31, from 4 – 6 pm in the SFCC Jemez Room.** Refreshments will be served.

Radon is a naturally occurring, colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that exists in most soils and is harmlessly dispersed in outdoor environments, but can be harmful when trapped in buildings. Prolonged exposure to indoor radon at elevated concentrations can cause lung cancer.

The purpose of this class is to help New Mexicans take action to protect themselves and their families from radon's adverse health effects. The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has reported that indoor radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. The NAS has also found that radon exposure causes between 15,000 and 22,000 lung cancer deaths each year or up to 60 deaths per day.

Any home can have a radon problem. The only way to know if a home has a radon problem is to test it. Pre-registered participants in the class will also receive a free radon test kit.

To register please call Jeanne-Marie Crockett at 428-1414.

For more information please contact Michael Taylor, NMED Indoor Radon Outreach Coordinator at (505) 827-1093, or Jon Goldstein, NMED Communications Director at (505) 827-0314.

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