

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF OUR RESIDENTS IN THEIR HOMES**

**RADON – A SILENT KILLER**

**Freehold Township Residents Urged to Test Homes for Radon, the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers.**

**Freehold, NJ, January 2023 –Freehold Area Health Department** is working in cooperation with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Radon Program in a statewide campaign to educate residents about the dangers of radon exposure and to encourage them to take action to protect their homes and families. In our community, Freehold Area Health Department is conducting a community awareness campaign via social media and distribution of educational materials at local community-based organizations, churches, libraries and private businesses.

Radon is an invisible, odorless radioactive gas that can build up dangerous levels indoors. It is measured in picoCuries per liter (Pci/L) of air. The average U.S. indoor level is 1.3 pCi/L. At 4 pCi/L, the risk of lung cancer from radon is greater than the risk from fire or other home accidents. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the DEP recommend that action be taken to reduce radon levels if the level in the home is greater than or equal to 4 pCi/L.

Fortunately, testing for radon is simple and inexpensive. The DEP Radon Program can provide a list of certified companies that provide testing services or do-it-yourself test kits –Freehold Township residents can pick up their **FREE** Test Kits at the Freehold Area Health Department office (while supplies last).

Radon problems can be fixed by qualified contractors for a cost similar to that of many common home repairs such as painting or having a new water heater installed.

Freehold Area Health Department urges residents to take action by testing their homes for radon. Radon poses a serious threat to our community's health but there is a straightforward solution. For more information on radon, contact Freehold Area Health Department at 732-294-2060 or visit <http://www.twp.freehold.nj.us/health> or the DEP Radon Program at (800) 648-0394 or visit [www.njradon.org](http://www.njradon.org)