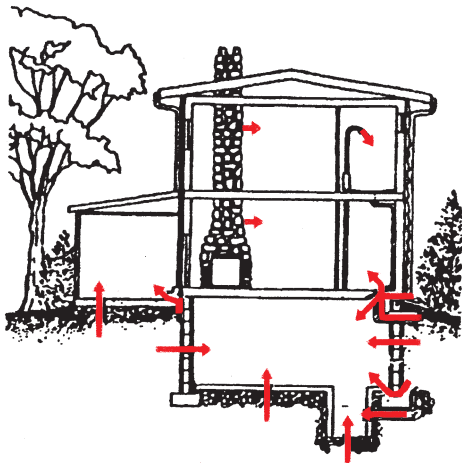


Any home can have elevated radon levels.

It doesn't matter if your home is old or new, or if it has a basement or is on a slab. Radon is a colorless and odorless radioactive gas that is produced naturally in the soil. Radon enters homes through cracks in slabs or basement floors and walls, and through openings around sump pumps.

Major Radon Entry Routes



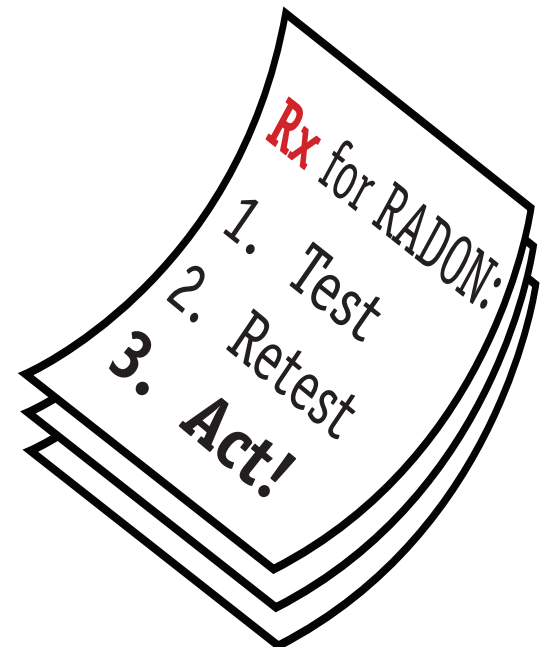
Radon may be a health risk for you and your family.

According to the EPA, radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, resulting in an estimated 14,000 lung cancer deaths annually. And, if you're a smoker, radon greatly increases your risk of lung cancer. But, if you quit smoking, you reduce your risk.

Radon Risk		
Radon Level	<i>If 1,000 people who smoked were exposed to this level over a lifetime....</i>	<i>If 1,000 people who never smoked were exposed to this level over a lifetime....</i>
20 pCi/L	About 135 people could get lung cancer	About 8 people could get lung cancer
4 pCi/L	About 29 people could get lung cancer	About 2 people could get lung cancer
0.4 pCi/L	About 3 people could get lung cancer	Less than 1 person could get lung cancer

Test Your Home, Protect Your Family From Radon:

A Guide for Washington County Residents



1. Test 2. Retest 3. Act!

State of New York
 David A. Paterson, Governor
 Department of Health
 Richard F. Daines, M.D., Commissioner

Your home could contain high levels of radon.

You live in one of 37 New York counties that have been designated as high radon risk areas by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and New York State. Many of your neighbors have already tested their homes for radon. A large percentage of their test results indicate radon levels above EPA’s recommended level for taking remedial action. If you haven’t tested your home for radon, do it now.

High Radon Area Counties

- Albany
- Allegany
- Broome
- Cattaraugus
- Cayuga
- Chautauqua
- Chemung
- Chenango
- Columbia
- Cortland
- Delaware
- Dutchess
- Erie
- Genesee
- Greene
- Herkimer
- Lewis
- Livingston
- Madison
- Oneida
- Onondaga
- Ontario
- Orange
- Otsego
- Putnam
- Rensselaer
- Saratoga
- Schoharie
- Schuyler
- Steuben
- Tioga
- Tompkins
- Ulster
- Washington
- Wayne
- Wyoming
- Yates

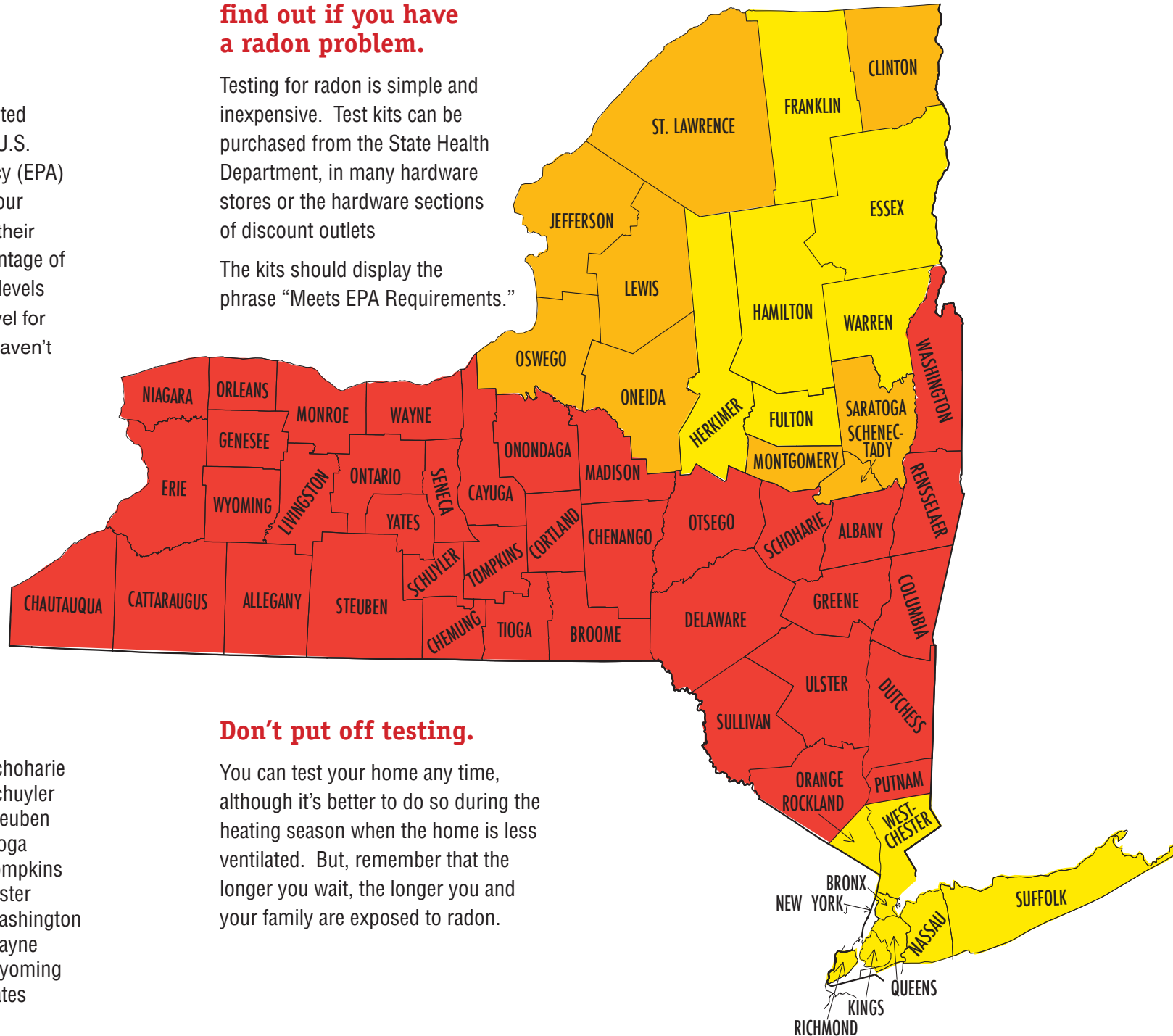
You must test to find out if you have a radon problem.

Testing for radon is simple and inexpensive. Test kits can be purchased from the State Health Department, in many hardware stores or the hardware sections of discount outlets

The kits should display the phrase “Meets EPA Requirements.”

Don’t put off testing.

You can test your home any time, although it’s better to do so during the heating season when the home is less ventilated. But, remember that the longer you wait, the longer you and your family are exposed to radon.



You can protect your family from radon.

If your home contains high levels of radon, there are things that can be done. There are contractors in all areas of the state who have met certain requirements and are trained to identify and fix radon problems in you home.

Learn more about radon.

For more information about radon or radon testing, or to obtain the names of local contractors, contact the State Health Department’s Radon Program at 1-800-458-1158.

Email: radon@health.state.ny.us
Web site: <http://www.health.state.ny.us>

Severity Above Average

- Low
- Medium
- High