

Radon Testing Tips

This summary is based on my conversation with radon testers, including the professional we had at our meeting and Dan Romano. It is not intended to be official advice and was not written by a certified radon tester.

- You must test the basement if there is “livable” space in the basement. Livable space includes laundry facilities and workout space. It does not include storage.
- You must test every livable floor.
- You do not need to use multiple tests in a unit. One is sufficient.
- You may want to start by only testing the lowest livable level in your building. If that space has a high reading, you will need to disclose or remediate anyway and therefore you won’t need to test the upper units.
- In units which span multiple levels, you should test on each level.
- Test should be placed around 4’-5’ off the ground. Placing tests too low can result in a higher radon reading as radon is heavy and will sink. This is standard protocol for most testers.
- You should place the test in a central living area or a bedroom. You cannot place a test in a hall.
- There have been problems reported with test kits from Home Depot. You may want to look into local labs for test kits.

Resources

Dan Romano, Home Radon Detection Co.
(207) 329-5815

Northeast Laboratory Services
(800) 244-8378
999 Forest Avenue, Portland

Jeff Twitchell, Air and Water Quality
(207) 865-0200 ext 204