

Radon is a radioactive gas. It comes from the natural decay of uranium that is found in the soil. It typically moves up through the ground to the air above and into your home through cracks in the foundation. Your home traps radon inside, where it can build up to dangerous levels. Any home may have a radon problem. This includes new and old homes, well sealed and drafty homes as well as homes with or without basements. One out of every 15 homes in the US is estimated to have elevated radon levels. Further information can be found by contacting the SC radon office at 803-898-3893. In addition information is available on the web at the following address:

<http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/envserv/radon.htm>

Homes in the Seneca area typically have radon amounts ranging from 1-2 picocuries per liter to as much as 50 picocuries per liter. Any level over 4 pc/l is considered to be above a safe level and according to the government needs to be fixed. The EPA estimates that about 21,000 annual lung cancer deaths are radon related and indoor radon is considered the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States.

Remediation to lower radon levels is fairly simple. Exterior fans are used to draw radon out of the crawl space or from under the slab in the lowest level of the home. Typical costs as a function of the size of the home range from \$800 to \$2400.

Free Radon test kits are available by mail at the SC Radon Hotline 1-800-768-0362. The kits and analysis are free.

Single Test kits are available for \$12.97 at Lowes this includes the cost of lab work to return a reading on radon level to the customer.

Home Depot has 2 units in a kit available for \$9.98. However this price does not include the laboratory expense of getting data to the user. Lab cost for this unit is \$30.

Tests take 2 days to run and you should be able to get results over the web or via regular mail within 10 days or less.

You can also purchase electronic testers that give continuous readings for about \$130. The Safety Siren Pro Series 3 which list on Amazon.com for \$126 is one example.

Certified Radon Mitigation Specialists in our Area

National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)

Columbia,SC	<u>Tina M Cole</u> <u>SC Department of Health and Environmental Control</u>	(800) 768-0362
Greenville,SC	<u>Reginald E. Massey</u> <u>SCDHEC</u>	(864) 241-1095
Greenville,SC	<u>Stan Plowden</u> <u>Radon Solutions, LLC</u>	(864) 907-7616
Greenville,SC	<u>Aimee Morrow</u> <u>SC DHEC</u>	(864) 241-1090
Greer,SC	<u>Larry W. McGriff</u> <u>Green Earth, Inc.</u>	(800) 833-7952
Maudlin,SC	<u>Ralph Quin</u> <u>Quin Co/Quin Home Inspection</u>	(864) 201-3021
Seneca,SC	<u>Scott Baumgartner</u> <u>Valley Environmental Services</u>	(864) 710-2069
Simpsonville,SC	<u>Timothy F. Pittman</u> <u>Construction Optimization, LCC</u>	(864) 616-4467
Simpsonville,SC	<u>Ralph P. Snow</u> <u>Attention To Details, LLC</u>	(864) 505-4946
Simpsonville,SC	<u>Christopher Mazzei</u> <u>Radon Medic/Chris Mazzei Services, LLC</u>	(864) 607-1711
Asheville,NC	<u>Gregory L. Peterson</u> <u>Meridian Home Inspection, LLC</u>	(828) 242-8700
Asheville,NC	<u>Dudley Wilson</u> <u>Blue Ridge Radon Solutions</u>	(828) 252-2212
Hendersonville,NC	<u>Henri Boyea</u> <u>Radon Control Products</u>	(828) 698-4960
Hendersonville,NC	<u>Gibbon Pender</u> <u>Buyer's Edge, LLC</u>	(828) 243-3908