



Benzie County Office
6051 Frankfort Hwy, Ste 100
Benzonia, MI 49616

Phone: 231-882-4409
Fax: 231-882-0143

www.bldhd.org

Leelanau County Office
7401 E. Duck Lake Rd
Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

Phone: 231-256-0200
Fax: 231-882-0143

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 28, 2023

Shedding Light on Radon Observes National Radon Action Month

Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department (BLDHD) recognizes National Radon Action Month. BLDHD takes a proactive stance in educating the community about the dangers of radon exposure. Radon, a naturally occurring radioactive gas, is the second leading cause of lung cancer, responsible for thousands of deaths each year. BLDHD aims to empower residents to take action and safeguard their homes from this silent threat.

We will continue with our annual campaign called "Give a Can, Get a Kit" during the month of January. To participate, residents exchange nonperishable food items and/or toiletries for a free radon test kit at our Benzonia and Lake Leelanau offices.

"Since its inception in 2020, our "Give a Can, Get a Kit" initiative has been making strides. Last year, BLDHD distributed 50 radon test kits to the community as part of National Radon Action Month," said Eric Johnston, Environmental Health Director. "Alongside assisting residents in testing their homes for radon every two years, we also contributed the collected items to two local nonprofit human service organizations, extending a helping hand to those in need."

This year's Radon Awareness Month campaign emphasizes the following key messages:

1. **Testing for Peace of Mind:** BLDHD urges residents to take the first step in radon prevention by conducting a simple radon test in their homes. Testing kits are available free of charge at BLDHD during the month of January and offer a cost-effective means to detect this invisible threat.
2. **Mitigation for Health and Safety:** In the event of elevated radon levels, BLDHD provides resources and guidance on mitigation techniques. These measures are essential in reducing radon exposure and minimizing associated health risks.
3. **Community-wide Impact:** Radon awareness is not limited to individual households. BLDHD calls on community leaders, schools, and businesses to join the fight against radon, creating a collective effort to protect public health.

"Radon is a serious health concern, but with awareness and action, we can significantly reduce the risks associated with this silent threat," said Dan Thorell, BLDHD's Health Officer. "Testing and mitigation are simple yet powerful steps towards a safer, healthier community."

For more information on radon testing, mitigation, and available resources, visit <https://bldhd.org/radon-testing-information/>.

Media Contact:

Rachel Pomeroy, PIO

231-882-6085

RPomeroy@bldhd.org

###



Proud member of the [Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance](#): 7 local health departments advocating for public health.