

Dealing with Radon

More and more informed buyers are having radon tests performed when considering the purchase of a home or office building. But what if an elevated concentration of radon is found? Does this mean you should walk away from your dream home? No! Radon reduction technology has improved so much over the last few years that reducing radon is easy and affordable.

So what is radon? It is an invisible, radioactive gas created from natural deposits of uranium in the soil. Radon gas can be drawn into a building and accumulate to concentrations that can cause a health concern. Finding high levels of radon in the home has nothing to do with the age, quality, or upkeep of the home.

Radon homes are in excess in the South Dakota and Midwest region. Therefore, the chance of finding a radon concern in a home that you like is relatively high. The only way to tell if a home has elevated levels of radon is to have the home tested. This is easy to do and there are many testing companies and home inspectors who offer radon measurement services. Look for EPA listed individuals.

Don't despair if you find elevated radon concentrations. There are reliable reduction techniques that will effectively control radon in buildings. Installing a radon system is affordable, reduces radon and can enhance future resale value. If you are interested in a home that either has an existing radon reduction system, or tests have shown that a radon system may be warranted, rest assured that your dream house will only be approved by a radon system.

Average installation cost of a reduction system is \$1,200 for the installation. Average operating cost in South Dakota is \$3.00 a month and expected life span is 11 years. There is no periodic maintenance.

So remember to always ask about radon before you buy or build, it can be found in any home regardless of age. If any is detected, reduction is possible!