



# Maine Radon Fact Sheet

## MAINE RADON PROGRAM

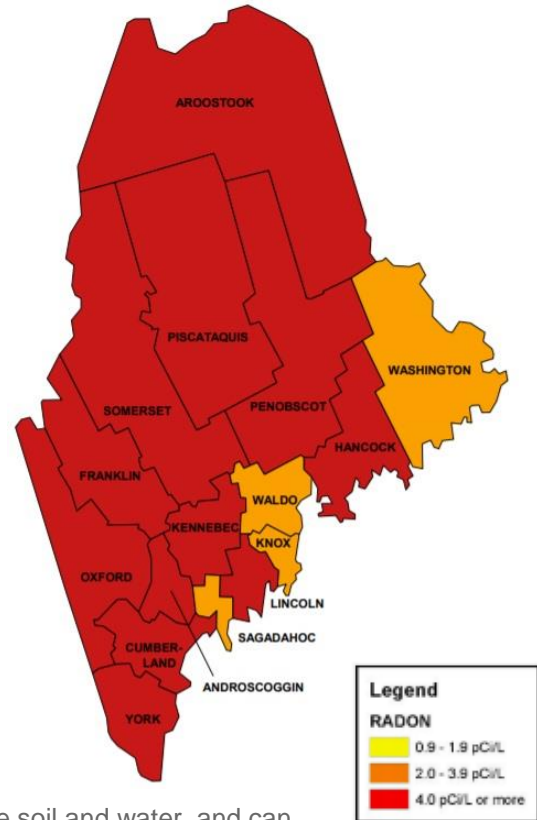
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/environmental-health/radon/hp-radon.htm>  
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The **Maine Radon Program** is part of the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) which has statutory authority to oversee all businesses and individuals providing radon service in Maine. The Maine Radon Program is funded by the U.S. EPA State Indoor Radon Grant (SIRG). Maine funds 100% of the required SIRG match in-kind.

The Maine Radon Program disseminates information to educate Maine residents about radon, works to answer general and technical questions for residents and the radon industry, and interprets test results for residents. Members of the Radon Program assist with setting and tracking Healthy Maine 2020 and Maine Cancer Plan radon testing and risk reduction goals.



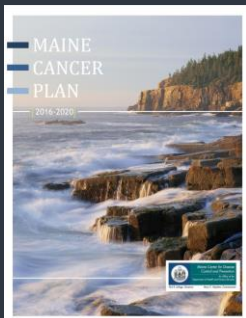
### Maine Radon Map & Facts:

High levels of radon gas occur naturally in Maine soil and water, and can move up into a house from the ground. Radon is a serious threat to health of Maine families. It makes sense to have homes tested. If the test numbers are higher than state and national safety guidelines, treatment systems can be installed. When buying or selling a house and testing for radon, state law requires that you use a Maine registered radon tester. This assures that an impartial expert does the job. Maine DHHS estimated that approximately one third of all Maine homes have high levels of radon; in some areas of the state closer the two-thirds of homes have high levels of radon. The average concentration for all of Maine is above the guideline of 4 pCi/l.

## Cancer Control and Research Plan

Prevention – Goal #2 - Reduce overall cancer risk in Maine through the reduction in selected exposures.

- Objective 2.1: Increase radon testing in owner-occupied structures to 40 percent by 2020.
- Objective 2.2: Increase radon testing in non-seasonal residential rental properties to 90 percent by 2020.
- Objective 2.3: Decrease the number of owner-occupied structures with elevated radon levels to 15 percent by 2020.



Maine Cancer Control Plan

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/population-health/cc/documents/FINAL%20Maine%20Cancer%20Plan%202016-2020.pdf>



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## Maine Enacted Legislation

### **Maine Public Law Chapter 699:**

Establishes a state-wide building code, and requires the state to incorporate the Maine model radon standard for new residential construction. The Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code established pursuant to the law adopts ASTM E-1465-08A (Standard Practice for Radon Control Options for the Design and Construction of New Low-Rise Residential Buildings) as a guideline for builders who elect to use radon control measures.

### **Maine Revised Statutes, tit. 14, § 6030-D:**

Requires residential landlords to have the air in their rental buildings tested for radon. Requires re-testing every 10 years when requested by a tenant, unless a radon mitigation system has been installed. Except in situations specified in the law, requires testing to be conducted by a radon professional registered with the state. Requires the landlord to provide a written radon notice to tenants and prospective tenants, including information on the risks of radon; the date and results of the most recent radon test (including tests conducted by a tenant showing elevated radon levels); the tenant's right to conduct a test; and any completed mitigation. Directs the state health department to develop a standard disclosure statement for landlords to use, including an acknowledgment that the tenant has received the disclosure. Establishes a fine of \$250 per violation. Requires reporting of test results to state

### **Maine Revised Statutes, tit. 22, §§ 771--784:**

Authorizes the state Department of Health and Human Services to act as an information clearinghouse for radon concerns and to educate the public about radon, and establishes the Radon Relief Fund to support radon-related research, testing, educational, and mitigation activities. Requires persons who test for or mitigate radon to register with the Department, but exempts builders who use radon-resistant new construction techniques as specified in the state building code. Requires that registered radon testers notify the Department of test results.

### **Maine Revised Statutes, tit. 33, § 173:**

Requires seller of residential real property to provide purchaser with a disclosure statement regarding any known defects, as well as the presence or prior removal of hazardous materials on the property, including radon, asbestos, and lead-based paint.