

Delaware Radon Fact Sheet

DELAWARE RADON PROGRAM

www.RadonSafeDelaware.org

Kurt Olinger

302-744-4816

kurt.olinger@state.de.us

Delaware Division of
Public Health

417 Federal Street

Dover, DE 19901

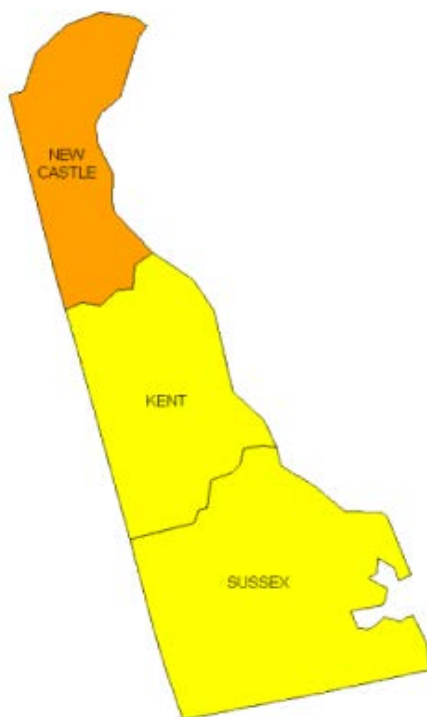


Delaware Cancer Control Plan

ftp://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Publication/s/Cancer/cccd/delaware_ccc_plan.pdf

Summary of USEPA Radon Risk Zones in Delaware:

- **Zone 1 (high risk- red) – No Zone 1 counties in Delaware**
Although there are no counties in DE that meet the definition of EPA's Zone 1, there are ZIP code areas within counties that show potential radon risk. The areas in DE that exhibit the highest risk include: Middletown, Odessa, Townsend, Arden, Hockessin and Tallyville ZIP codes.
- **Zone 2 (moderate risk- orange) – 1 County**
The DE moderate risk county is New Castle County. Generally, 15% of the homes in New Castle County exhibit test results over EPA's action level. The ZIP code areas with the highest percentages of homes over EPA's action level are in New Castle County and are listed above.
- **Zone 3 (low risk- yellow) – 2 counties**
Kent and Sussex counties are listed as Zone 3 counties by the EPA. The ZIP code areas showing the highest potential for elevated radon includes Dover and Smyrna. Generally less than 10% of homes in Kent and Sussex counties exhibit elevated radon.



Testing your home for radon is the most important way to understand your exposure. Radon test kits are available at a local hardware store. It is recommended that all homes be tested for radon, with basements being tested first. In Delaware, the geographic areas where radon is most prevalent are those closest to Pennsylvania and central New Castle County. Take steps to reduce radon entry into a home by sealing gaps and openings, and installing a radon mitigation system. This will reduce your radon exposure.

Delaware ZIP code information and a map are available at: www.RadonSafeDelaware.org. Delaware matches 40% of the EPA Radon Grant through in-kind salary.

Enacted/Pending Legislation

Delaware Code, tit. 6, §§ 2570--2578: Requires sellers of property containing up to four residential dwelling units to disclose to the buyer, agent and/or subagent all known material defects of the property, including information about radon tests or inspections. Sellers must also provide purchasers with written information developed by the Department of Health and Social Services describing radon exposure risks, radon testing, and radon remediation. The radon disclosure form, developed by the Delaware Real Estate Commission pursuant to the law, requires disclosure of any radon tests performed on the property. Real estate licensees are required by regulation (24 Del. Admin. Code 2900-9.0) to obtain the radon disclosure from sellers and to make the disclosure available to purchasers. A separate Property Condition Report requires disclosure of additional environmental hazards, such as asbestos, lead paint, toxic or hazardous substances, and mold, including any past mold testing results. (See <http://www.dpr.delaware.gov/boards/realestate/forms.shtml>.)

Order your Radon Test Kit by calling the Delaware Division of Public Health's Office of Healthy Environments at 302-744-4546

Proposed -29 Delaware Code, Section 9003 (7). 9 DE Admin. Code 101 & 103: If enacted, amends the DELACARE: Regulations for Family and Large Family Child Care Homes and the Regulations for Early Care and Education and School-Age Centers to include the requirements for radon testing and radon mitigation if necessary as well as additional environmental hazard determinations and controls.

Most Significant Needs: There are two significant gaps in the Delaware radon program:

1. the lack of radon regulations governing radon mitigation system installation, and
2. required testing of all schools and daycare facilities.