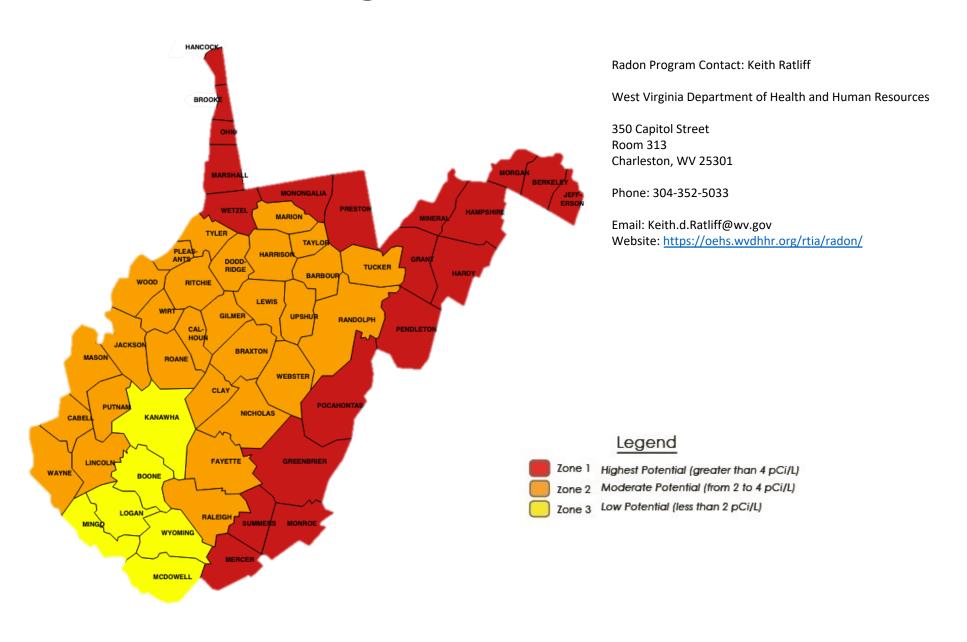
# **West Virginia Radon Fact Sheet**



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### West Virginia State Cancer Plan (2021 - 2025)

Aim 4:Reduce the incidence and mortality rates of cancers related to environmental carcinogens.

#### Objectives

- 4.1 Increase the number of counties with clean indoor air regulations from 31 counties to 39 counties.
- 4.2 Promote awareness of radon and home testing to the public annually.
- 4.3 Educate workers and communities annually about environmental carcinogens and ways to prevent exposure through policy, systems, and environmental changes.

#### Strategies

- West Virginians
  - · Learn about environmental carcinogens in your area and how to protect yourself
  - Test your home for radon and install radon detectors
  - Wear protective equipment when dealing with carcinogens
  - Learn how to properly dispose of household chemicals and hazardous substances
- Health Care Providers and Organizations
  - Assess patients for exposure to environmental carcinogens and refer for testing
  - Limit exposure to radiation
  - Wear personal protective equipment when indicated
  - Educate patients on the danger and side effects of radon exposure
  - Ask and document in chart if patient has a radon detector in the home
- Business and Employers
  - Educate employees about the importance of using recommended personal protective equipment when dealing with carcinogens
  - Complete available testing to identify carcinogens at the work site
  - Install radon detectors at the work site
- Government
  - Enact clean indoor air regulations that cover all enclosed public places
  - Propose legislation to create smoke-free worksites
  - Support regulations that reduce air, land, and water pollution
  - · Collect, map, and report data on environmental and occupational carcinogens
- Community and Faith-Based Organizations
  - · Educate members about carcinogens in your community and how to protect themselves
  - Sponsor hazardous household waste disposal opportunities
  - Install radon detectors at community and faith-based gathering places
  - Encourage pharmacies to collect and dispose of unused medications

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### **West Virginia Enacted Legislation**

W. Va. Code §18-9E-2 and 3(b)(c) Air quality in new schools says, in an effort to create well-ventilated school environments, any new public school building for which construction began after July 1, 1998, shall perform radon testing in the school within the first year of occupancy and at least every five years thereafter.

W. Va. Code §16-34-1 et seq. Licensure of Radon Mitigators, Testers, Contractors, and Laboratories, provides definitions, license require and exceptions to licensure, the Powers and Duties of the Director, how to handle complaints, and allowances for licensure reciprocity.

W. Va. Code R. §64-78-1 et seq. Radon Licensure Rule, provides the interpretive rules to administer the West Virginia Code pertaining to radon licensure. For example: Paragraph 5.1.c.2 requires that all radon professionals (testers and mitigation specialists) must pass the examination recommended by the United States Environmental Protection Agency i.e., applicants must be certified by either the National Radon Safety Board (www.nrsb.org) or the National Radon Proficiency Program (www.nrpp.info) and that their work must meet stipulated EPA and ASTM standards.

Licensed radon testers may only use licensed radon laboratories to analyze samples for the presence and concentration of radon. Licensed radon laboratories Report all State radon test results in picocuries per liter (pCi/L) to the director at least quarterly, by city, street, and zip code and they must maintain radon test results for a minimum of three years.

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