



Experiences from Housing Nova Scotia's Radon Testing and Mitigation Program

**Workshop: Radon Exposure in Nova Scotia:
Challenges and Solutions**
May 26, 2016

Radon Mitigation – Housing Nova Scotia Experiences

Radon Testing

- Over 8000 Tests
- DCS Public Housing & Affordable Housing
 - Conducted in heating seasons: 2007/8; 2008/9; 2009/10
- Rural Native Housing
 - Conducted in heating seasons: 2013/14, 2014/15
- After Initial Tests:
 - Follow Up Testing - Radon Mitigation
 - Retesting – Missing, Questionable results

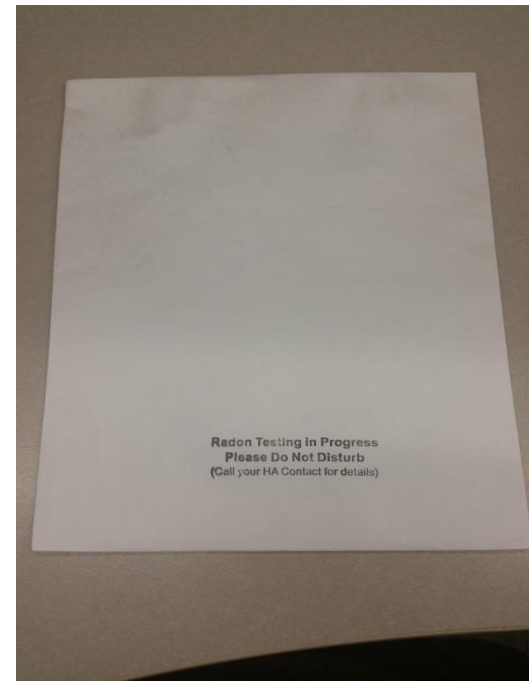


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Radon Testing

Difficulties / Challenges with Installation and Collection

- Letter of Explanation from HA
- Tenants: Seniors and Families
- Challenges – Some Stories
 - Dogs
 - Disappeared
 - Camera
 - Creates Gases
 - Not Home



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Radon Testing

Training – All Has

- Installation / collection Form [HNS Radon Detector Install Form](#)
- Install Cheat Sheet [Radon Install Protocol Sheet](#)
- E-Perm ON / OFF [E-Perm Radon Detector Schematic](#)
- HNS & Aqua Check – Run through, Paperwork, When to Collect

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Radon Mitigation Design

Types of Buildings:

- MURBS: 1,2,3 storeys
- Single family dwellings
- Tall Buildings



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Radon Mitigation Design

- Sub Slab Depressurization & Suction: Slab, Finished / Unfinished Basement



PHOTO 119 - UNIT G3 - SUCTION POINT

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Radon Mitigation Design

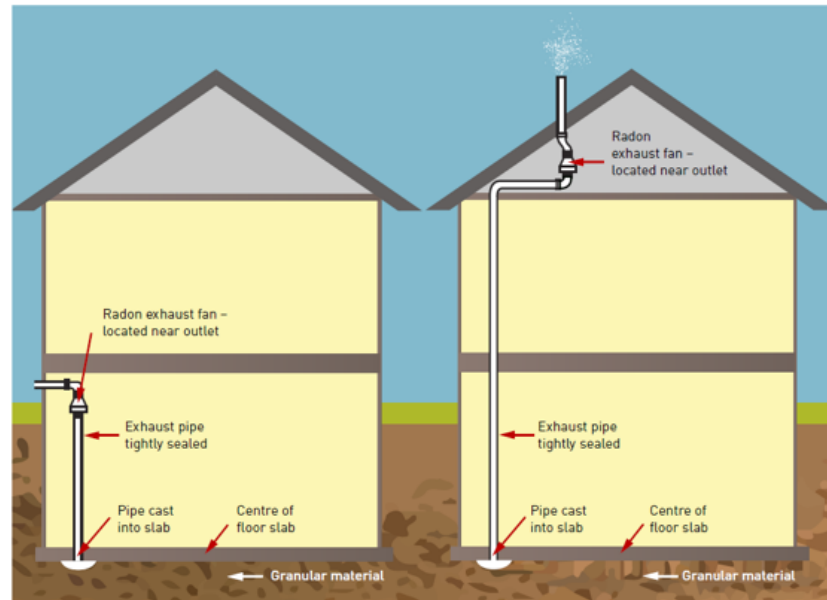
- Crawl Space Sealing and Suction: Motel style MURB



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Radon Mitigation Design

- Attic Roof Vent & Side Wall Vent



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Radon Mitigation Design

- Challenges
 - Exhaust vent: Side or Roof
 - Relative Costs Radon Mitigation - [RM Rel Costs](#)
 - Pipe Route, Fan - enclosure?
 - Crawl Space sealing – swimming pool



PHOTO 119 - UNIT G3 - SUCTION POINT



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Quality Assurance

- Testing after mitigation
- Retesting
- 200 Or less?
 - Test results can vary year by year

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Prevention

- Cancer – “after cigarette smoking, prolonged residential radon exposure is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the general population” ([Rev Environ Health](#). 2001 Jul-Sep;16(3):151-67. A review of residential radon case-control epidemiologic studies performed in the United States)
- Anyone
- If suffering and treatment costs can be avoided ...