

RADON INFORMATION

Radon is a naturally occurring cancer causing, radioactive gas. You cannot see it, smell it or taste it, but it is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, and the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2003 Assessment of Risks from Radon in Homes estimates radon to cause about 21,000 lung cancer deaths per year.

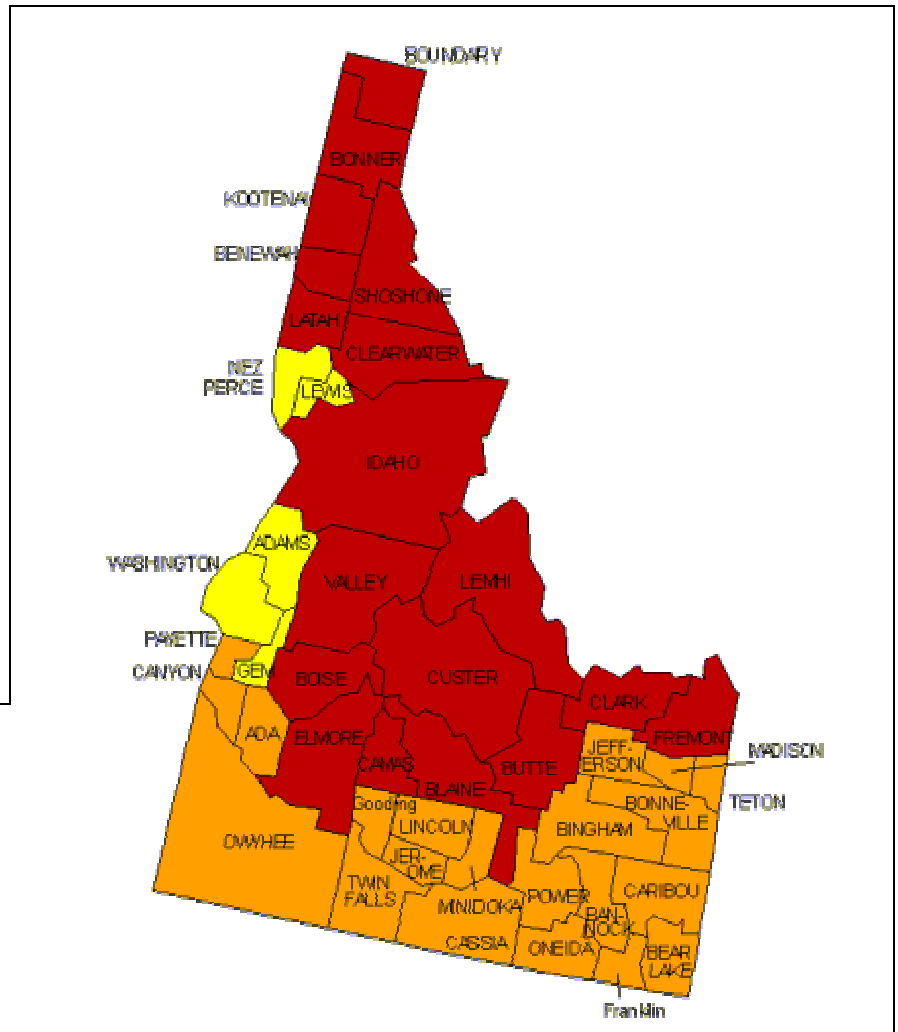
Radon is produced by the natural breakdown of uranium that is found in nearly all soils. It typically moves up through the ground to the air above and into houses through cracks and other holes in the foundation. Houses trap radon inside, where it can build up.

Any home may have a radon problem. This means new and old homes, well-sealed and drafty homes, and homes with or without basements are all susceptible to having elevated radon levels.

There is a very effective method for reducing radon levels in a home, however prior to investing in installation of a mitigation system, the radon levels should be measured. The US Environmental Protection Agency recommends radon testing prior to the purchase of any house, regardless of its location and the type of construction.

RADON IN IDAHO

The U.S. EPA and the U.S. Geological Survey have evaluated the radon potential in the U.S. and have developed this map to assist National, State, and local organizations to target their resources and to assist building code officials in deciding whether radon-resistant features are applicable in new construction. The EPA states that all homes should be tested regardless of geographic location. The map assigns each of the 3,141 counties in the U.S. to one of three zones based on radon potential. Each zone designation reflects the average short-term radon measurement that can be expected to be measured in a building without the implementation of radon control methods. The radon zone designation of the highest priority is Zone 1.



- Zone 1** Highest Potential (Greater than 4 pCi/L)
- Zone 2** Moderate Potential (From 2 to 4 pCi/L)
- Zone 3** Low Potential (Less than 2 pCi/L)