



# Naugatuck Valley Health District

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Ansonia Beacon Falls Derby Naugatuck Seymour Shelton

**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## PRESS RELEASE

Date: January 5, 2024

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Phone: (203) 881-3255 ext. 108

### NAUGATUCK VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT PRESENTS RADON AWARENESS: A VIRTUAL PROGRAM

In recognition of National Radon Action Month, the Naugatuck Valley Health District will be hosting a virtual information session on radon on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:00pm.

Radon is a naturally occurring colorless and odorless radioactive gas. Radon enters the home through small cracks and holes in the basement. Prolonged exposure to levels above 4 picocuries per liter can increase one's risk of getting lung cancer. Public health officials have found that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S., behind cigarette smoking *and* the leading cause among non-smokers. If you smoke cigarettes and have radon in your home, then your risk of getting lung cancer is even greater. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention an estimated 15,000-30,000 U.S. citizens die from radon-induced lung cancer each year.

According to CT DPH, high radon concentrations can occur sporadically in all parts of Connecticut. Two homes right next to each other can have different radon levels. Director Jessica Kristy cautions that "many homeowners or renters don't think to test their homes annually. The only way to find out if your home has radon is to test for it. With that being said, now is a good time of year to do so!"

The heating season is the best time to test for radon because your home is closed up, and radon levels tend to build up indoors. Our organization, along with the Department of Public Health, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the American Lung Association of Connecticut are partnering together to promote radon testing and mitigation.

**In addition to offering the information session, Naugatuck Valley Health District has 100 FREE test kits available on a first come first serve basis. To arrange to pick up your kit, contact Health Educator Lisa Trupp at 203-881-3255, ext. 108. If you are a homebound individual or have limited accessibility to transportation, please let us know so we can best accommodate you.**

You can also purchase a test kit by calling the American Lung Association of Connecticut directly at 1-800-LUNG USA, visiting [Airchek.com](http://Airchek.com), or you can purchase a kit by visiting your local hardware store. Kits are valued around \$15.00 so don't wait, call today!

**To register for the program, please use the link:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/68YWFF7>

For additional information on radon, contact your local health department at (203) 881-3255 or the Connecticut Department of Public Health Radon Program at (860) 509-7367 or visit our website at <http://www.dph.state.ct.us>.

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*Healthy people in a healthy Naugatuck Valley*