What you **don't** see **can** hurt you

RADON

Radon: cancer causing & radioactive gas

You cannot see, smell or taste radon but it may be a problem in your home. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the US and the leading cause among non-smokers. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths every year. About 2,900 lung cancer deaths each year occur in people who have never smoked. If you smoke and your home has high radon levels your risk of lung cancer greatly increases!

Radon is found throughout the US

Radon comes from the natural radioactive breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water and gets into the air that you breath. It can enter any type of building (homes, offices and schools) and build up to high levels. Families are most likely to get the greatest exposure in the home because this is where you spend the greatest amount of time.

Testing for Radon

Testing is the only way to know if you and your family are at risk. It is recommended that you test in the lowest _lived in_ level of your home. Winter is the best time to test because your windows and doors are typically closed. Testing is inexpensive and easy—it should only take a few minutes of your time. Test kits are available year round at Portage County Health & Human Services. Kits are also available at most hardware stores for around $20.00. Protect your family and test your home.

Fixing the Problem

There are simple inexpensive ways to fix a radon problem. Even very high levels of radon can be reduced to acceptable levels. In Portage County, you can obtain more information regarding radon or testing by calling your local Radon Information Center at 920-787-6590, or Portage County Health & Human Services at 715-345-5350. You can also visit the Wisconsin Radon Information site at: **www.lowradon.org**

Pick up a Radon Test Kit

at

Portage County Health and Human Services
817 Whiting Ave. Stevens Point WI
(715) 345-5350
January Special $5.00 plus tax short term test