WASHINGTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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To: School Newsletters, Municipal Newsletters, Washington County News Papers

From: Margaret Anderson, Environmental Health Supervisor

Subject: Test Your Home for Radon during National Radon Action Month

For Release in January 2013

JANUARY IS NATIONAL RADON ACTION MONTH

The Washington County Health Department is encouraging citizens in Washington County to test their homes for radon this winter. A good time to do this is in January during **National Radon Action Month**. To encourage county residents to test their homes, the Washington County Health Department, 333 E Washington St., Suite 1100, West Bend is offering **free radon test kits** (one per household) throughout the winter. The office is open daily between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Monday through Friday. If you wish to have a kit mailed to you, send the health department a check for $4 and a kit will be mailed to your home. Once the test is complete, homeowners send the kit to a testing lab using the pre-addressed mailer that comes with the kit. Five first-class postage stamps are required for mailing. Analysis and reporting of results is done at no additional cost to the consumer.

You may be surprised to know that **Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer**, causing an estimated 20,000 lung cancer deaths a year in the United States. By taking action now to prevent exposure to harmful radon gas, you can help assure your future health. Margaret Anderson, Supervisor of the Environmental Health Section for the Washington County Health Department states that "The main message for National Radon Action Month is that everyone should test their residence for radon. If radon levels are high, a radon system should be installed by a certified radon mitigator."

A list of Certified Radon Mitigators can be found at www. lowradon.org/. See the Washington County Health Department website, www.co.washington.wi.us/chn, if you need further information. Environmental Health personnel are trained and ready to answer your questions about radon and can be reached at 262-365-5878

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