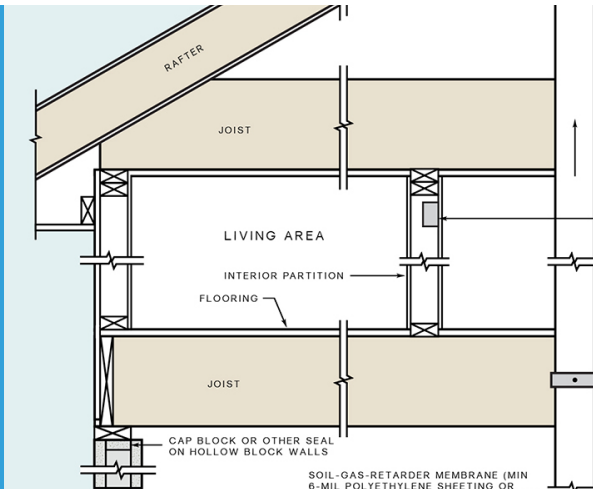
C.R.I., INC.
COMPREHENSIVE RESIDENTIAL INSPECTIONS

Certified Radon Inspections



WHAT IS RADON? **Radon is a cancer-causing, radioactive gas. It is invisible to the eye as well as odorless and tasteless. Radon originates from the natural (radioactive) breakdown of uranium in soil, rock, and water. It can get into the air you breathe in any type of building (homes, offices, schools). A high indoor radon level can result when too much radon builds up within your home or other buildings. People are most likely to have their greatest exposure to radon occur within their homes since this is where most of their time is consistently spent.**

How Does Radon Enter Your Home?

Radon moves through the ground to the air above. It can enter your home through areas such as cracks in solid floors or walls, construction joints, gaps in suspended floors, gaps around service pipes, cavities inside walls, and even the water supply. When radon enters your home, it is then trapped and can build up to unsafe levels. Radon can enter homes that are well-sealed or drafty and homes with or without basements. New and old homes are equally at risk. It is estimated that nearly one in every 15 homes in the United States has elevated radon levels.

The Risks of Radon

Over time, breathing air containing radon can cause cancer. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, second only to lung cancer caused by smoking. The risk of developing lung cancer is especially high if you smoke and your home has high radon levels.

Testing for Radon

The only way to know if your home has radon is to test for it. Using your neighbor's home as judgment for whether or not your home has radon is not a safe way to determine radon levels in your own home. Testing requires very little of your time and is simple and inexpensive. There are a variety of testing options available, including short-term testing and long-term testing.

SHORT-TERM TESTS: depending on the device used, these tests may take only two days to complete or up to 91 days to complete. The devices most commonly used for short-term tests include charcoal canisters, charcoal liquid scintillation, electret ion chamber, and continuous monitors. Each type of test is different, so to obtain accurate results, it is important to follow the directions specific to the test kit you are using. A short-term test will not be as effective in determining an average year-round radon level because levels can fluctuate from day to day and season to season. However, if you need immediate results, this test (followed by a second short-term test) can be a good indicator of whether or not you need to fix your home.

LONG-TERM TESTS: Long-term tests are conducted in your home for more than 91 days. The most common devices for long-term testing are electret detectors and alpha track detectors. Long-term testing gives a better picture of the true radon level over time.

Hire a Certified Professional to Test for Radon

While you can test for radon on your own, this type of test may not be as accurate as one conducted by a certified professional. When testing on your own, there is more opportunity for environmental error which can affect the accuracy of the test. You can obtain more reliable results when your home is tested by a certified radon professional. The National Radon Proficiency Program (NRPP) is recognized as the leading certification program for radon professionals in the nation. Professionals certified by NRPP have been trained in radon measurement and must participate in continuing education to maintain their certification. They must operate in accordance with established ethical practices, national standards, and local rules and regulations.

Fixing a Radon Problem

Radon is measured as the number of picocuries of radon per liter of air (pCi/L). It is recommended that you fix your home if radon measures 4 pCi/L or higher. Radon levels can be reduced in most homes to 2 pCi/L or below. No matter how high the levels of radon are, the home can be fixed. Radon reduction systems are effective and not too costly. The average cost in Utah for a sub-slab system ranges from $1,200 to $2,500. Even if you have lived with a radon problem for a long time, reducing the radon level in your home will reduce your risk of lung cancer.

C.R.I., Inc. Testing and Certification

At C.R.I., Inc. we employ powerful technology to test your home for radon. We will conduct a two to three day test of your home using the Sun Nuclear 1027 continuous monitor. If the results of this test are inconclusive or identify high radon levels, we can conduct further testing that can last up to 91 days or more. The base cost for a two to three day test starts at $200. Pricing of further testing will depend on what tests are required, lab fees, expenses, etc. Call us for a quote

We are certified through the National Radon Proficiency Program. In addition to testing, we are able to make recommendations for mitigation and put you in contact with the right help for correcting high levels of radon in your home.

REFERENCES:

www.deq.utah.gov
www.epa.gov/radon

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