Central Michigan
District Health Department
Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities

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PRESS RELEASE FOR LOCAL MEDIA

To: Local Media

From: Central Michigan District Health Department's Environmental Health Division

RE: Radon Awareness Month

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January is Radon Awareness Month – Give a Can, Get a Kit!

January is Radon Awareness month and the Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) wants to remind you that testing for radon in your home, office, and school is an important way to protect your health. You cannot see, smell, or taste radon, so testing is the only way to determine if radon is a problem in your indoor environment. This January, participate in our "Give a Can, Get a Kit" event where bringing in a non-perishable item, to be donated to a local food pantry, will get you a FREE Radon test kit. During the entire month of January, test kits at all branch offices of CMDHD will be discounted to $5 or free with a donation of a nonperishable food item.

Radon has been determined to be the most serious cancer-causing agent that the general public encounters in the environment. "In the winter months when doors and windows are closed, radon can rise in our homes, so this is the best time to test," stated Steve King, Director of Environmental Health Services for the CMDHD.

Radon tests are easy to do and kits are available at most local health departments. "You should test your home for radon if you have never tested, moved to a new home, recently remodeled, or it has been several years since testing," says Director King. Small cracks in the foundation can develop over time as buildings settle, providing additional pathways for radon to enter. "Give a Can, Get a Kit" and protect your family by testing for this unseen hazard while helping your community too.

More general radon information is available by calling the Central Michigan District Health Department or visiting the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Website at https://www.epa.gov/radon or the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) at http://www.michigan.gov/radon .

This article has been brought to you by Central Michigan District Health Department, which serves the counties of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola and Roscommon. Visit our website at www.cmdhd.org, LIKE Central Michigan District Health Department on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @CMiDHD.

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