



State of Utah

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Utah Children Raise Awareness through Radon Poster Contest**

*Student, Parent, and Teacher Can Win Washington, D.C. Trip*

(Salt Lake City, Utah) – Utah children have an opportunity to raise awareness about the risks of indoor radon by participating in the 2011 National Radon Poster Contest that begins today. This year's contest is in partnership with Kansas State University and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

All entries for the state contest will be entered in the national contest. Winners of the national contest will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to attend the national award ceremony. State winners will receive a cash award. Children ages 9-14 enrolled in a public, private, territorial, tribal, Department of Defense or home school are eligible to participate. Members of a sponsoring club, such as a scouting organization, 4-H, or art, computer, and science clubs are also eligible. There is no entry fee, but only one entry per student is allowed. Utah's poster contest entry deadline is **September 20, 2010**.

Poster topics must include one of the following themes:

- What is radon?
- Where does radon come from?
- How does radon get inside our homes?
- Radon can cause lung cancer.
- Test your home for radon!

Last year poster contest winners were: Emily Pinnock, 1<sup>st</sup> place, Olympus Jr. High; Anna Pinnock, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Cottonwood Elementary; and Joshua Basilio, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Spring Creek Elementary.

The public is invited to judge this year's posters by voting online at: [www.radon.utah.gov](http://www.radon.utah.gov). Three winners will be awarded. The state's first-place winner will receive \$300, with \$500 awarded to his or her school or organization. Second- and third-place winners will be awarded \$100 each.

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“Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer, second only to smoking,” said John Hultquist, radon program manager with the Division of Radiation Control. “Testing the air you breathe in homes and schools is the best method to determine your risk from radon.”

For more information about the Radon Poster Contest and the voting process, please visit [www.radon.utah.gov](http://www.radon.utah.gov) or call 801-530-0091.

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