



State of Utah

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NEWS RELEASE

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Radon Tee: World Trek 2010 Travels to Utah to Raise Radon Awareness

(Salt Lake City, Utah) – The Radon Tee, a special t-shirt designed for [Cancer Survivors Against Radon \(CanSAR\)](#) by a group of eighth grade students from Illinois, will make a stop in Salt Lake City on September 21, 2010. It's all part of Radon Tee: World Trek 2010, hosted by the Utah Division of Radiation Control (DRC), to raise awareness about radon. The project harnesses the power of many community leaders to educate Utahns about the dangers of radon exposure and to encourage them to take action to protect their homes and families.

Exposure to radon gas is the leading cause of lung cancer among nonsmokers and the second leading cause of lung cancer overall, causing thousands of deaths annually in the United States. Each day, radon-induced lung cancer claims more than 57 lives in the United States. The lower the radon levels in your home, the lower your family's health risk.

The official kick-off event for Utah's radon awareness efforts will be September 14, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., at 758 W. 750 S., Springville, UT as Habitat for Humanity begins work on it's first radon-resistant home. Miss Utah will be on hand to recognize Utah builders for building radon-resistant homes. Later that day, the Radiation Control Board will honor selected members of our community for their concerted efforts to raise awareness and reduce radon. This event starts at 3:00 p.m. at the Department of Environmental Quality, 195 N 1950 W, 1st Floor Conference Room. Individuals who will be recognized include: a cancer survivor; local builders implementing radon-resistant new construction; and educators who are implementing radon testing in schools.

Other community events scheduled to raise radon awareness include:

- September 11-12, 9:00 a.m., Miller Motorsports Park GRAND-AM, 2901 North Sheep Lane, Tooele, will welcome the Radon-Tee to Utah.
- September 18, 10:00 – 2:00 p.m., the University of Utah Be Well Utah Family Health Fair, at Stillwell Field, Fort Douglas will provide radon education material in conjunction with Radon Tee.

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- Local environmental health educators throughout Utah will be raising radon awareness through various activities.

The only way to know if your home has elevated levels of radon is by testing. Performing a do-it-yourself radon test is simple and inexpensive. Test kits can be purchased from the Utah Safety Council, any local hardware and home improvement store, or Utahns may order a \$6 discounted test kit (includes laboratory analysis) online. Radon problems can be fixed by qualified contractors for a cost similar to that of many common home repairs. For more information about ordering radon test kits online and a list of qualified contractors, please go to: www.radon.utah.gov or call 800-458-0145.

“The simple fact is, more than 21,000 people will fall victim to this deadly disease,” said Gloria Linnertz, Radon Tee Team Champion. “By sponsoring the Radon Tee, Utah is raising awareness and encouraging their community to take action and preventive measures by taking the first step and testing their home’s radon levels.”

About Radon Tee: World Trek 2010

Radon Tee: World Trek 2010 is a project sponsored by Cancer Survivors Against Radon (CanSAR). To learn more about this initiative, visit: www.radonleaders.org/radontee.

Facts About Radon

Radon is a cancer-causing, radioactive gas. You can’t see, smell or taste it, but an elevated radon level in your home may be affecting the health of your family.

You should test for radon. If your house has a radon problem, you can take steps to fix it to protect yourself and your family. EPA and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention recommend that homes with radon levels at 4.0 pCi/L or higher should be fixed.

You can fix a radon problem. Choose a qualified radon mitigation contractor to fix your home. Utah requires radon professionals to be licensed and certified. The cost for mitigation varies depending on the size and design of your home.

New homes can be built with radon-resistant features. Radon-resistant construction methods can be effective in reducing radon entry. Every new home should be tested after occupancy, even if it was built using radon-resistant construction methods.

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