



State of Utah

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NEWS RELEASE

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2011 Radon Poster Contest Winners Announced

Salt Lake City, Utah – The Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Radiation Control today announced three state winners for the 2011 National Radon Poster Contest. Congratulations go to the following students:

- First-place winner Marissa Funke (age 12) from South Hills Middle School, Riverton for her poster: "*Don't Wait Till It's Too Late!*"
- Second-place winner Jessica Edmondson (age 11) from Taylor Elementary School, Payson, for her poster: "*Fighting Radon.*"
- Third-place winner Alisha Kirkland (age 9) from Provost Elementary, Provo, for her poster: "*What is Radon?*"

Students (ages 9 – 14) from seven different schools throughout the state rose to the challenge by creating 62 posters. Posters illustrated the dangers of radon, where it comes from, how it gets into our homes, and how residents can test their home for this invisible, radioactive gas.

The creative artwork was displayed on the division's website for public voting. Winning posters were selected on content accuracy, visual communication of a specific topic, poster reproducibility (with title/topic on the front) for possible publication, and originality.

The 2011 state winners and the first-place winner's school will receive cash awards. The winning posters will be sent to Washington D.C. to be entered in the National Radon Poster Contest. The national winner, a parent, and teacher will win an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. to participate in an awards ceremony in January 2011. Last year, Utah's first-place winner Emily Pinnock from Olympus Jr. High went to Washington D.C. as a national winner.

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“The poster contest is a great way to educate people about the dangers of radon gas, the second leading cause of lung cancer,” said Radon Program Coordinator Christine Keyser. “Testing for radon in homes and schools is the only way to find out if a radon problem exists.”

For more information about radon, please visit: www.radon.utah.gov or call the radon hotline: 800-458-0145.

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