



State of Utah

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NEWS RELEASE
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Radon Poster Contest Opens for Online Voting

SALT LAKE CITY – Utah students, ages 9-14, have enthusiastically responded to the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Radiation Control’s call for creative radon posters. Artistic posters have streamed in from all over the state and now Utahns are being invited to vote online for their favorite poster. To vote, please go to www.radon.utah.gov. But, please note, **only one vote per email address will be accepted.**

“Utah students have done a great job of promoting radon awareness by participating in the annual Radon Poster Contest,” said John Hultquist, manager of the Indoor Radon Program. “The contest is an excellent educational tool as one mother expressed, “We would never have known our home had elevated radon levels if our child hadn’t participated in this contest.””

Online voting runs from Oct 23 – 30. Please judge the posters on the following criteria: content accuracy, visual communication of topic, reproducibility, and originality.

Utah’s first-place winner will receive \$300 and his/her school/organization will receive \$500. Second- and third-place winners will receive \$100 each. Winners will be entered in the national contest where they may be eligible to receive up to \$1,000. The winning posters will be reproduced and distributed nationally to promote radon awareness. Notification of state and national winners will occur by November 30, 2013.

Radon is an invisible, odorless, cancer-causing radioactive gas that seeps into homes and buildings through cracked walls and foundations. The U.S. Surgeon General has warned, “Indoor radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and breathing it over prolonged periods can present a significant health risk to families all over the country. It’s important to know that this threat is completely preventable. Radon can be detected with a simple test and fixed through well-established techniques.”

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A do-it-yourself radon test kit makes testing easy and affordable. Test kits may be purchased at any retail hardware store or you may order a \$7 test kit through the state's website.

More information about the poster contest, radon test kits, radon measurement providers, and radon mitigators is available at www.radon.utah.gov or by calling Utah's Hotline at 1-800-458-0145.

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