NEWS RELEASE
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Utah’s Youngest Citizens Leading Radon Awareness Campaign
With National Radon Poster Contest

SALT LAKE CITY – Utah students have until Oct. 20, 2015 to enter the 2015 National Radon Poster Contest, an annual contest that highlights the dangers of radon, an invisible and odorless gas that causes lung cancer.

The disturbing fact is that one in three homes in Utah has elevated levels of radon. A radon test kit is the only way to detect the presence of radon in your home. The poster contest that began this week gives students an opportunity to showcase their artistic talents in hopes of increasing awareness for the need to test homes for radon. State contest winners will receive cash awards, with three first-place winners receiving $100 and his/her school/organization receiving $100. Second- and third-place winners will receive $100 each. There are 3 categories: Grades 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12.

The Utah Department of Environmental Quality’s Radon Program is coordinating this year’s contest in partnership with the Utah Department of Health, Utah Cancer Action Network and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Children ages 9-18 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 or an art, computer, science or 4-H club also are eligible.

There is no entry fee, but only one entry per student is allowed. The entry deadline is: Oct. 20, 2015. Poster contest submission forms, topics and rules may be found online at www.radon.utah.gov.

The public is invited to judge this year’s state posters by voting online at www.radon.utah.gov. Online voting runs from Oct 23-30. All posters will be subject to the following judging criteria: content accuracy, visual communication of topic, reproducibility, and originality.

More information about contest eligibility, radon test kits, and radon contractors is available at www.radon.utah.gov or by calling Utah’s Hotline at 1-800-458-0145.

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About DEQ
Established in 1991, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) mission is to safeguard public health and quality of life by protecting and enhancing the environment. DEQ implements state and federal environmental
laws and works with individuals, community groups and businesses to protect the quality of Utah’s air, land and water. For more information, visit www.deq.utah.gov, follow DEQ on Facebook (utahdeq) and Twitter (UtahDEQ), or call 1-800-458-0145.