



State of Utah

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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*Governor Herbert Declares January National Radon Month*  
**Utah Environmental Quality Offering 100 Free Radon Kits**

SALT LAKE CITY – Governor Gary Herbert has declared January National Radon Action Month, joining the national initiative to encourage testing for this deadly invisible gas.

The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will be giving away 100 free radon test kits throughout the month of January 2019. To request a kit, visit [radon.utah.gov](http://radon.utah.gov) and click on the link for a free test. DEQ provides radon test kits for \$9. Testing your home for radon is easy.

Winter is the perfect time to test your home for radon because all of your doors and windows are closed. Testing is the only way to know if your home has elevated levels. Health officials point out that long-term radon exposure is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers and the second leading cause of lung cancer in smokers. More Americans die from lung cancer than any other cancer. Every year 21,000 lung cancer deaths are because of radon exposure.

In Utah, 1 in 3 homes have elevated radon levels. Studies indicate that most of our radiation exposure comes from indoor radon. Radon, a natural decay product of uranium, is a radioactive gas released from rock, soil, and water. It is colorless, odorless, and tasteless.

It costs about \$1500 to get rid of elevated levels of Radon in your home. You can find a list of certified mitigator professionals on our website.

For more information about Radon Action Month activities, hiring a certified professional or how to test your home, visit [www.radon.utah.gov](http://www.radon.utah.gov).

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**About DEQ**

Established in 1991, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) mission is to safeguard and improve Utah's air, land and water through balanced regulation. 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](http://www.deq.utah.gov), follow DEQ on Facebook ([utahdeq](https://www.facebook.com/utahdeq)) and Twitter ([UtahDEQ](https://twitter.com/UtahDEQ)), or call 1-800-458-0145.