

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

RADON GAS AWARENESS MONTH JANUARY 1st-31st, 2024

- WHEREAS,** *Radon is an odorless, colorless, naturally occurring radioactive gas found in Maryland; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Radon is the second-leading preventable cause of lung cancer. Nationally, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that radon causes about 21,000 cancer-related deaths a year. EPA estimates that 2,900 of these deaths occur among people who have never smoked; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Elevated radon levels are found in homes and pose a serious health threat to families residing in these homes if not addressed; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Any home may have elevated levels of radon, even if neighboring homes do not, and living in a home with an average radon concentration of 4 picocuries per liter of air poses a similar risk of developing lung cancer as smoking half a pack of cigarettes a day; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Testing the home is the only way to know if a radon problem exists, testing is easy and inexpensive, and if elevated radon levels are found the problem can be easily abated; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Maryland Department of the Environment, Maryland Department of Health, and Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development are joining forces with local county health departments to educate residents of the dangers of radon gas.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim JANUARY 1st-31st 2024 as RADON GAS AWARENESS MONTH in Maryland and do commend this observance to our citizens.

*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of January
Two Thousand and twenty-four*



[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Lt. Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State