

# Kansas Radon Program

Newsletter

Serving individuals certified in radon services in Kansas

January 2023



## QUESTIONS?

### Certification Questions

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<https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/1061/Kansas-Radon>

### General Radon Questions

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[www.kansasradonprogram.org](http://www.kansasradonprogram.org)

## KRAM

Proclamation Signing for  
Kansas Radon Action Month 2

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## STANDARDS CHANGING

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## YOUR RADON DATA HELPS

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*On November 29, 2022,  
Governor Laura Kelly  
declared January to be  
Kansas Radon Action Month.*



On November 29, 2022, Governor Laura Kelly declared January 2023 Kansas Radon Action Month (KRAM). Pictured above: Alexandra Bahadori (KSU), Kendra Baldrige (KDHE), Missy Gladstein (Radon Runner), Ashley Goss (KDHE), Governor Laura Kelly (State of Kansas), Jason Meinholdt (KDHE), Sara Prem (American Lung Association), Rachel Santos (KDHE), Secretary Janet Stanek (KDHE), Toni Valdivia (KDHE), Jessica Willard (KDHE).

Winter is an excellent time to encourage citizens to test their homes for radon gas. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommends actively reducing indoor radon levels when homes are confirmed with 4.0 pCi/L of radon gas or higher. Kansas State Research and Extension (KSRE) county offices and all county health departments can obtain radon test kits for distribution from the Kansas Radon Program (KRP).

Chronic, long-term radon gas exposure in homes increases the long-term risk of developing lung cancer. Residential radon gas exposure is the number one leading cause of lung cancer death in the U.S. for non-smokers. The KRP is promoting KRAM through state-wide radio and television public education announcements in association with the Kansas Association of Broadcasters (KAB) between January 15 and March 15, 2023. KRP personnel are available to schedule public education programs (webinar options available) on request throughout winter 2023. KRP personnel are also available for phone, newspaper or live broadcast interviews. The KRP encourages all KSRE offices and county health departments to include articles in monthly newsletters or newspaper columns promoting KRAM.

Visit [www.kansasradonprogram.org](http://www.kansasradonprogram.org) or call (800) 693-5343.

# Changes are Coming to Kansas Radon Standards Requirements: from EPA to ANSI-AARST

In 2021, at the recommendation of the U.S. EPA, the KDHE Division of Public Health Radiation Control Section began the regulatory process to replace the U.S. EPA radon standards with the ANSI-AARST Standards for radon measurement and mitigation in Kansas.

The ANSI-AARST Standards build upon protocols developed by the EPA. Additionally, certain protocols that used to be considered recommendations will now be mandatory (“should” becoming “shall”).

The ANSI-AARST Standards that **WILL** be adopted include those for single-family and multi-family residential buildings, schools, and other large buildings:

## Single Family

- MAH 2019
- SGM 2017 with 12/20 revisions

## Multi-family

- MAMF 2017 with 1/21 revisions
- RMS-MF 2018 w/ 12/20 revisions

## Large Buildings/Schools

- MALB 2014 with 1/21 revisions
- RMS-LB 2018 with 12/20 revisions

Standards that **WILL NOT** be adopted include those for radon in water, quality assurance, and radon resistant new construction (RRNC) standards.

The main differences for radon measurement include directions for when to test a single-family building as well as device placement when conducting extended testing or testing in time-sensitive scenarios. Additionally, they add nuance to action level guidance and the implementation of closed-house conditions during short-term tests.

The main differences for radon mitigation include instructions for system labeling, system monitoring, and system exhaust discharge. Once in effect, these changes will ensure that all radon mitigation systems operate safely with visible, easy-to-read labeling and include an audible or visible monitoring system so that occupants know when and how to contact the installer should the need arise.

Most likely, these are protocols you already employ throughout the course of doing business.

The ANSI-AARST Standards add nuance to the U.S. EPA radon standards previously in effect and make certain protocols mandatory instead of optional. We recommend keeping a copy of the ANSI-AARST Standards on hand to consult when needed. In practice, the new standards will help further ensure accurate, representative test results and reliable mitigation recommendations.

Questions? Contact: Mark Ungerer or Jason Meinholdt at KDHE: 785-296-1560

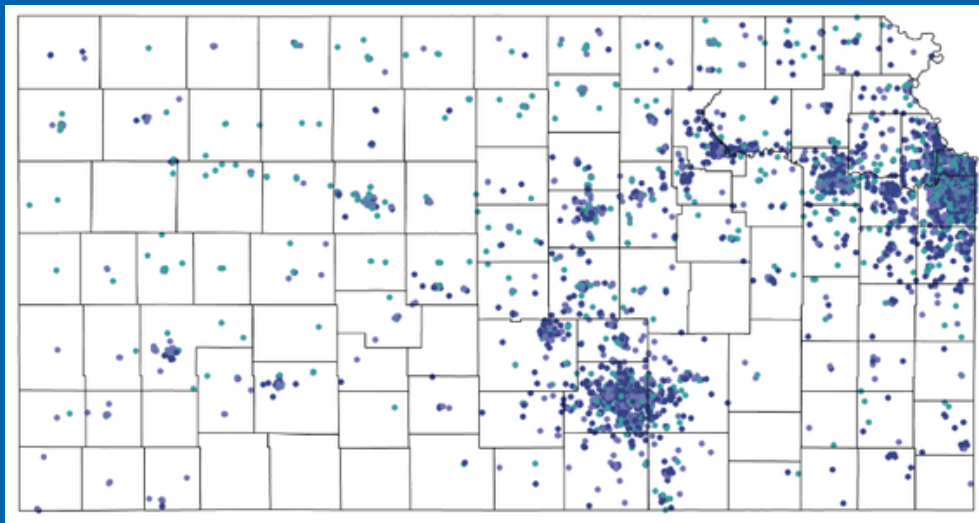


Figure 1: Geographic distribution of radon tests taken in Kansas in 2020

# Your Radon Data Protects the Health of Kansans!

Did you know that the data certified radon technicians submit plays a vital role in protecting the health of fellow citizens from the effects of radon?

The data is used in a variety of ways to both inform and guide public health outreach efforts not only in Kansas, but across the country. For example, the data is processed, cleaned and standardized in order to facilitate data submission to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) where it becomes part of a national radon database that health professionals can use to better understand radon conditions across the United States.

In addition to national efforts, the data is also used to calculate a series of radon estimates for every county in Kansas which are made publicly available through the national (<https://ephtracking.cdc.gov/DataExplorer/>) and state Environmental Public Health Tracking Program websites ([shorturl.at/gJQY4](http://shorturl.at/gJQY4)).

## How is the data used to protect the health of Kansans?

Data plays a critical role in public health outreach efforts throughout the state. By submitting accurate address-level data, spatial analysis can be performed allowing the geographic distribution of testing and mitigation efforts to be examined and analyzed (See Figure 1). Comparison between testing and mitigation records can also be made to identify homes with elevated radon levels that have yet to be mitigated. Being able to perform these types of analyses gives public health professionals the information they need to make better, more informed decisions about how and where to target messaging and allocate resources to reduce radon exposure.



# FREE CE Will Be Available on the Updated Standards

As mentioned previously in this newsletter, the KDHE Division of Public Health Radiation Control Section will begin the adoption process of the ANSI–AARST Standards for radon measurement and mitigation in Kansas, at the recommendation of the U.S. EPA.

In order to prepare radon measurement and mitigation technicians for these upcoming changes, the Kansas Radon Program at Kansas State University will offer four (4) free, four-hour continuing education webinars once the new standards have been adopted.

These courses will contribute to radon technicians' continuing education credits, which are required during the 24 months the certification is valid with KDHE: 16 hours for those who hold one certifications (measurement-only or mitigation-only) and 24 hours for those who hold both measurement-and-mitigation certification.

Once it has been approved by KDHE, the webinar schedule will be emailed at a future date to all state-certified radon professionals.

# Upcoming Courses



January - March  
**2023**

## Radon Course Schedule

To register,  
please visit:  
<https://radoncourses.com>

### JANUARY

<b>Jan 20</b> Measurement in Multi-Family, Lg. Buildings/Schools Webinar	<b>Jan 26</b> Soil Gas Mitigation Compliance Inspector Webinar	<b>Jan 30-31</b> Manhattan, KS Entry-Level Measurement	<b>Jan 30-31</b> Entry-Level Measurement Webinar
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### FEBRUARY

<b>Feb 8-10</b> Manhattan, KS Entry-Level Mitigation	<b>Feb 8-10</b> Entry-Level Mitigation Webinar	<b>Feb 20-21</b> Lenexa, KS Optimal Mitigation & Adv. Diagnostics	<b>Feb 23</b> Mitigation in Multi-Family, Lg. Buildings/Schools Webinar
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### MARCH

<b>Mar 6</b> Des Moines, IA CE Before Region 7 Stakeholders'	<b>Mar 21-23</b> TBD, WI Entry-Level Mitigation	<b>Mar 27</b> RRNC Codes, Standards, & Performance Webinar	<b>Mar 27</b> Radon for the Real Estate Industry Webinar
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Courses will be cancelled at least one week prior to course start date if there are insufficient registration numbers