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For Immediate Release

RADON EXPOSURE IS LEADING CAUSE OF LUNG CANCER AMONG NON-SMOKERS

January is Radon Action Month

GREENFIELD, Wis. — As part of national Radon Action Month, the Greenfield Health Department is encouraging homeowners to test their home for radon because exposure to radioactive radon gas is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers nationwide.

Radon is an odorless, radioactive gas that is naturally present in the ground and can enter buildings through their foundations. Both old and newer homes can be susceptible to radon. An estimated 20,000 lung cancer deaths are caused by radon annually among non-smokers, according to reports by the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Surgeon General.

“Radon is an easily mitigated health risk,” stated Darren Rausch, Health Officer/Director. “Radon testing has provided piece of mind to hundreds of Greenfield home owners since 2010.”

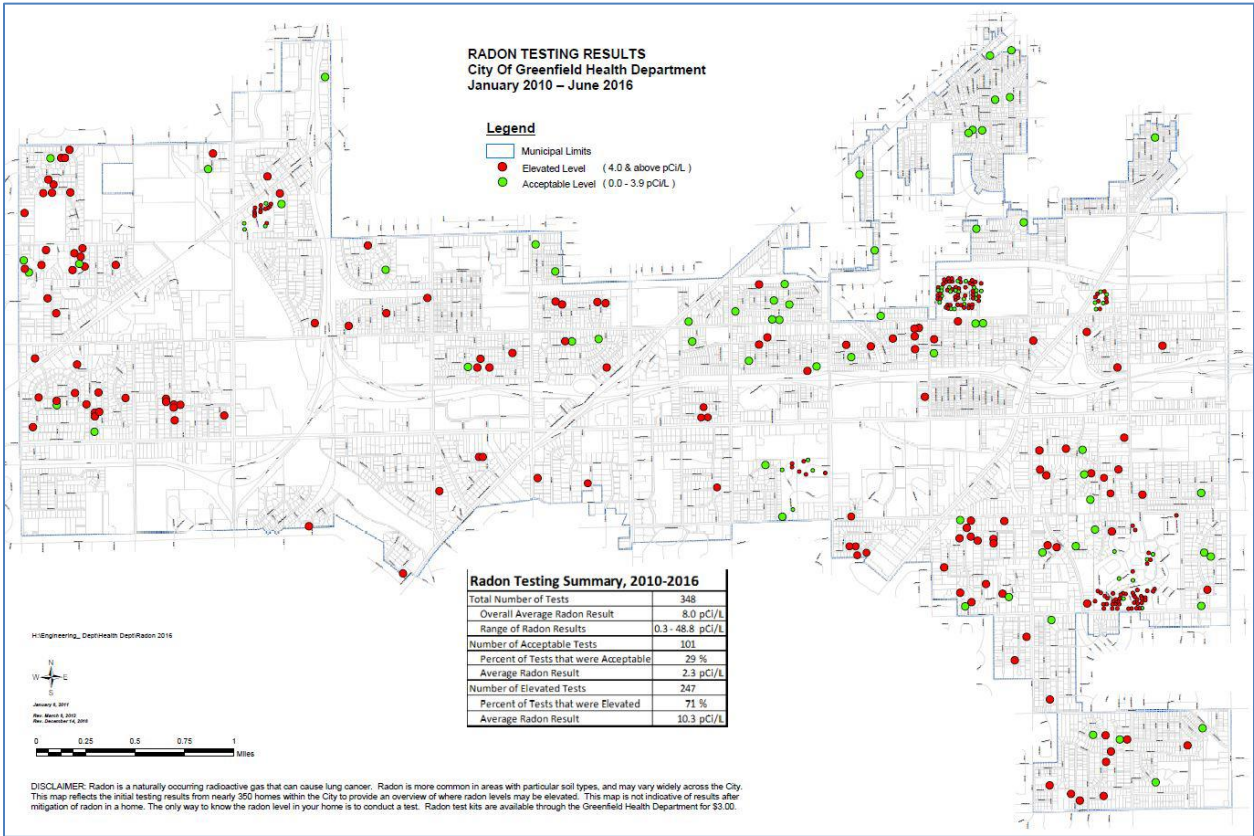
From 2010-2016, radon testing data identified over 70 percent of Greenfield homes tested had elevated test results. The average elevated test result was 10.3 pCi/L, well above the acceptable level of 4.0 pCi/L. Greenfield radon data for the past six years has been mapped to indicate areas with higher radon concentrations; this map is attached to this press release.

Radon test kits are available at the Greenfield Health Department for \$3, and are also available at local hardware and home improvement stores.

For additional information about radon visit www.lowradon.org, or the Greenfield Health Department Radon information page: <http://www.ci.greenfield.wi.us/211/Radon>.

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