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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 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. It can enter your home through small cracks in the foundation, openings around joints and pipes, and dirt floors. 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 (EPA) 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.”

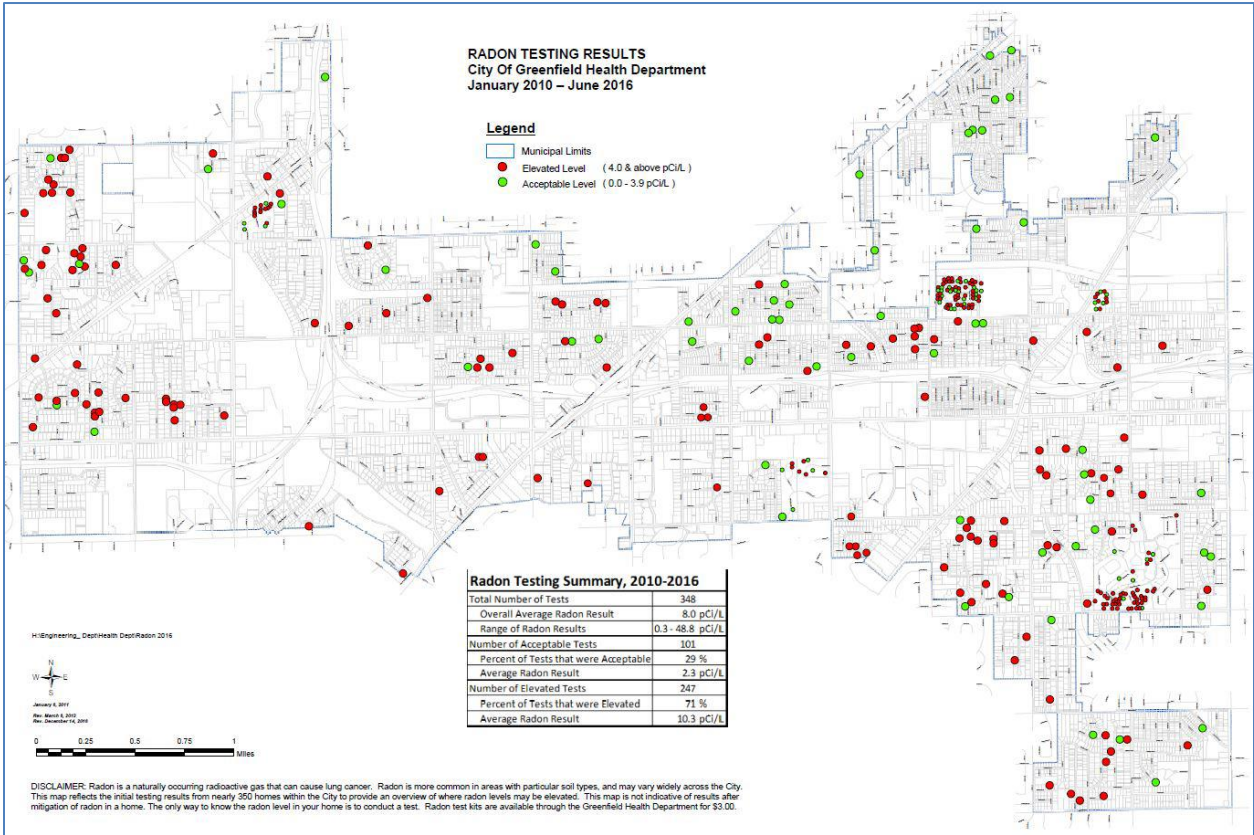
From 2010-2016, radon testing data identified over 70 percent of Greenfield homes tested had elevated test results. The average elevated test result was 10.3 pCi/L, well above the acceptable level of 4.0 pCi/L. Greenfield radon data for the past six years has been mapped to indicate areas with higher radon concentrations; this map is attached to this press release. If high levels of radon gas are detected, simple steps can be taken to correct the problem and make your home safe.

The only way to know if you have a safe level of radon inside your home is to conduct a radon test. Radon test kits are available at the Greenfield Health Department for \$3 during normal business hours, and are also available at local hardware and home improvement stores.

For additional information about radon visit [www.lowradon.org](http://www.lowradon.org), or the Greenfield Health Department Radon information page: [bit.ly/RadonInformation](http://bit.ly/RadonInformation).

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