

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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GTCHD is Offering Free Home Radon Test Kits During National Radon Action Month

Donate a nonperishable food item and receive a free home radon test kit

The Grand Traverse County Health Department (GTCHD), in collaboration with the Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance, is offering free home radon testing kits with the donation of a nonexpired, nonperishable food item through January. Residents can also purchase a home radon test kit at a discounted cost of \$5 until the end of the month. All collected food donations will be distributed to food pantries in Grand Traverse County.

Radon is a leading source of lung cancer among non-smokers, causing thousands of deaths each year. The GTCHD encourages residents to test their homes for radon; by doing so, they can play an important role in creating healthier homes and communities.

"Radon is a serious health concern that tends to be overlooked because it is both invisible and odorless," said Brent Wheat, GTCHD Environmental Health Director. "The best time to check your home for radon is during the colder months when doors and windows are closed as this will provide the most accurate results. Testing for radon is simple, and if elevated levels are detected, there are ways to lower your exposure such as sealing cracks in floors and walls or installing a ventilation system."

The kits are designed to be user-friendly, each featuring detailed pictures and instructions alongside a single test kit. The GTCHD provides home radon test kits to residents year-round for only \$10. Residents can pick up these test kits at the Environmental Health office, located in the public services building at 2650 LaFranier Road in Traverse City. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., but it's closed daily from noon to 12:30 p.m.

To learn more about radon, please visit our [GTCHD website](#) or call our team at 231-995-6051. For additional information about radon, check the Environmental Protection Agency website at <https://www.epa.gov/radon> or the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy website at <http://www.michigan.gov/radon>.

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