

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE REPORT

RADON TESTING REPORT

Valley Inquiry Charter School

Report to: Vonnie B. Good, EHS Salem-Keizer Public Schools

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On-site: December 5 –December 8, 2022

Report: December 14, 2022

PURPOSE

Radon retesting was done at the Valley Inquiry Charter School to determine if there have been any changes in the background radon levels in the classrooms, offices and other rooms that are in contact with the ground since the 2013 tests.

This testing is a requirement in ORS 332 Healthy and Safe Schools Plan rules.

CONCLUSION and RECOMMENDATIONS

All spaces had levels of radon below the EPA Action Level.

TESTING

Radon testing was conducted using protocols recommended by the Oregon Health Authority per ORS 332.166-167. Radon Air-Chek short-term test devices were used in the rooms by suspending the device in each room. The testing occurred from December 5, 2022 to December 8, 2022 during normal and routine building ventilation system operation. Weather conditions during the weeks prior of testing had been wet with cold temperatures.

Quality assurance (QA) testing was also conducted by utilizing laboratory spiked test devices, (QCS), blank (QCB) test devices, and duplicate samples per the recommendations found in ORS 332.166-167. The laboratory analysis of the QA samples were found to be within the expected range of analytical accuracy recommended by the Oregon Health Authority.

EPA RADON GUIDELINES

The EPA has set an Action Level of 4.0 pCi/L (picoCuries per liter) for schools. If classrooms, offices or buildings have radon levels at or above 4.0 pCi/L, EPA recommends that schools take action to reduce the level. These actions include:

Step 1. If your result is 4.0 pCi/L or higher take a follow-up test (Step 2) to be sure.

Step 2. Follow up with either a long-term test or a second short-term test.

The World Health Organization has set their action level at 2.7 pCi/L. Salem-Keizer Public Schools has determined that 2.7 pCi/L is a target level where retesting should be done.

CONTROL OF RADON LEVELS IN SCHOOLS

The major control mechanism for lowering radon levels within school buildings is the use of dilution ventilation. If the amount of outside air delivered into a building increases, the radon levels should decrease.

Radon test result report for:**VICS
MAIN**

Kit #	Room Id	Started	Ended	pCi/L	Analyzed
11118479	COUNSELOR OFFICE	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.2 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118478	HEALTH ROOM	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.3 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118492	IB OFFICE	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	2.6 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118482	KITCHEN	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.2 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118490	LIBRARY	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	2.3 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118475	LRC	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.7 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118480	MULTIPURPOSE	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.5 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118481	MULTIPURPOSE OFFICE	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	0.8 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118476	PRINCIPAL OFFICE	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.7 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118496	QCB1	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	< 0.3	2022-12-09
9604583	QCS1	2022-12-03 @ 9:00 am	2022-12-06 @ 9:00 am	24.3 ± 1.9	2022-12-09
11118487	READING ROOM	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.8 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118483	RM 1 S	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	0.9 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118485	RM 1W	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.2 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118484	RM 2	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.7 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118486	RM 3	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.6 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118491	RM 4	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	2.4 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118493	RM 5	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	2.3 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118489	RM 7E	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	2.5 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118488	RM 7S	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	2.5 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118477	SCHOOL OFFICE	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	1.7 ± 0.3	2022-12-09
11118494	T1	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	< 0.3	2022-12-09
11118495	T2	2022-12-05 @ 10:00 am	2022-12-08 @ 10:00 am	< 0.3	2022-12-09

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Note: QCS is the laboratory spiked sample. Spiked measurements are exposed in a radon chamber to a known amount of radon and then returned to the laboratory without the laboratory's knowledge. This does NOT represent a space in the building. It is part of the Quality Control/Quality Assurance for reporting.

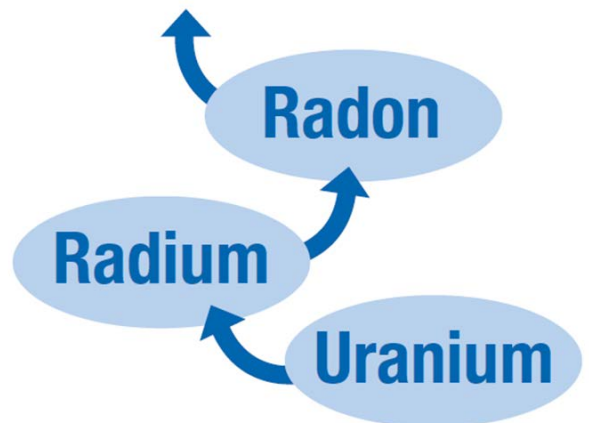
Radon in schools

Fact Sheet on Radon Exposure for Students and Staff



What is radon?

Radon is a radioactive gas you can't see, smell or taste. It is a decay product of uranium and is found all over the world. Uranium and its decay products are naturally found in the soil and rocks beneath buildings. Our school image (right) shows how uranium naturally decays into radium that further breaks down into radon gas. Radon moves up through the soil and enters buildings in contact.



Why is radon a problem in Oregon schools?

Radon is the 2nd leading cause of lung cancer, after smoking. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates around 21,000 radon-related lung cancer deaths occur each year. Breathing high levels of radon in combination with smoking is even more dangerous and increases your risk by ten times.

Home is likely the most significant source for breathing radon. According to the EPA, 1 out of 15 homes has high radon levels. School is likely the second largest source of radon exposure for students and staff. The only way to know your radon levels is to test. The EPA recommends that **all** homes and schools be tested for radon.

EPA ACTION LEVEL

4.0 Picocuries / Liter of air

Testing at Home

Radon testing at home can be simple and inexpensive. You can find do-it-yourself test kits at most local hardware stores and online from the [American Lung Association](http://www.AmericanLungAssociation.org). Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Radon Program also offers FREE test kits to those living in areas where little data is available. To find out if you are eligible, contact radon.program@state.or.us.

Testing in Oregon Schools

By law (ORS 332.341-345), all Oregon schools are required to test for radon before January 1, 2021.

School radon testing involves the placement of small testing devices in all frequently occupied rooms on the lowest level of the building. Initial testing is short-term and lasts between 2 and 7 days. Test devices are not dangerous in any way.

Rooms that test at or above 4.0 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) (EPA recommended action level) are subject to longer confirmation testing and radon reduction systems.

*Test results for your school can be found at:

For more information about radon, visit www.healthoregon.org/radon.

If you have other questions or concerns about radon testing at your school, contact _____ at _____.

