

POSTER CONTEST!

2024 Alaska Radon Poster Contest

The Alaska Radon Poster Contest serves to **raise awareness of the harmful effects of elevated levels of indoor radon gas and promote testing and mitigation of indoor radon.** By participating in this activity, students will learn about radon and how to reduce their risk of exposure.

Radon gas is derived from rocks and dirt in the ground, beginning with the radioactive decay of naturally occurring uranium. There is always some radon in the air around us, but a problem occurs when it leaks in through cracks or gaps underneath the house, causing a potential build-up of radon gas inside the home. You can't see or smell radon gas, but it's dangerous. Breathing in high levels of radon can raise your risk of lung cancer. According to the Alaska Division of Public Health, radon is an under-recognized health risk in the state. Many homes tested throughout Alaska have radon levels above the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) limit of 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L). Testing your home is the only way to find out if you have a radon problem. If you do, then you can fix it.

Who: Students ages 9–14

Students may be enrolled in public, private, territorial, tribal, DoD, or home school, or part of a sponsored club like scouts or 4H.

Deadline: November 15, 2024

Prizes

1st Place*: \$100 Michaels Gift card to the student *and* \$100 Michaels Gift card to the student's sponsoring classroom or organization

2nd Place: \$75 Michaels Gift card

3rd Place: \$50 Michaels Gift card

**The first place winner will also be entered in the National Radon Poster Contest*

More Information/Contact

For more information, contact Paul Goodfellow: paul.goodfellow@alaska.gov

Visit: dggs.alaska.gov/outreach/radon-poster.html

The Alaska Radon Poster Contest is sponsored by the Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGs), UAF Cooperative Extension, American Lung Association in Alaska, and National Extension Healthy Homes Partnership, with support from the EPA's State Indoor Radon Grant to Alaska's Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Air Quality. This grant is implemented through a partnership of DGGs and UAF Cooperative Extension.



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GUIDELINES

Poster topics should include (at least one)

- What is radon?
- Where does radon come from?
- How does radon get into our homes?
- Radon can cause lung cancer
- Test your home for radon
- Mitigating radon in your home

Poster Guidelines

- Be original
- No student names on the front of the poster
- Alaska Artwork Submission Form must be included with the poster (see last page)
- White paper – 8 ½” x 11” or 11” x 17” size is preferred, but all submission sizes will be accepted (preferred size best for easier reproducibility)
- Can be created with crayon, markers, paint (watercolor, tempera, and acrylic), collage, pencil, photographs, or computer graphics
- Lettering and message should be large enough to reproduce well, with all pencil markings erased
- Copyrighted characters, product logos, and trademarked or brand names cannot be used
- One entry per student

Eligibility

- Student age 9–14
- Enrolled in a public, private, territorial, tribal, Department of Defense (DoD), or home school; or qualify through a sponsoring club, such as art, computer, reading or science clubs, scouting organizations, or 4-H clubs

Judging Criteria

- Content accuracy on radon
- Visual communication of topic
- Reproducibility (larger letters, good contrast)
- Originality
- No grammatical and/or typographical errors

Deadline and Winners

Posters must be submitted by November 15, 2024. Winners will be announced by November 25, 2024. First place winners will also be entered in the National Radon Poster Contest, organized and sponsored by the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors and American Lung Association.

We encourage all registrants to submit the national poster contest entry form with their poster entry.

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SUBMISSION + RESOURCES

Submission

Submit entries no later than **November 15, 2024** to:

AK Radon Poster Contest
Attn: Paul Goodfellow
Alaska DNR Geologic Materials Center
3651 Penland Parkway
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

or digitally to paul.goodfellow@alaska.gov

National Radon Resources:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: www.epa.gov/radon

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/radon

Radon Leaders: www.radonleaders.org

National Radon Program Services: sosradon.org

Alaska Radon Resources:

Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys: dggs.alaska.gov/hazards/radon.html

Naturally occurring radon in Alaska: doi.org/10.14509/31109

(Introductory radon information as double-sided flyer; print ready)

Radon testing after earthquakes: doi.org/10.14509/30168

Understanding your radon test results: doi.org/10.14509/30467

(Suggestions for next steps after testing and general information about mitigation techniques)

Mitigating radon levels at home: doi.org/10.14509/30474

(Do-it-yourself instructions for mitigating structures with radon concentrations greater than the EPA's action level)

Radon in Alaska: What you should know: doi.org/10.14509/30745

(Short, informational video on radon testing and mitigation geared toward rural Alaska)

Online Alaska Radon Map: maps.dggs.alaska.gov/radon

(Interactive map of generalized radon test results and a radon predictive map for Alaska)

UAF Cooperative Extension: uaf.edu/ces/home-environment/radon/

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ENTRY FORM

Artwork Title: _____

Student Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Yes:

No:

My child's first & last name and school/club/organization affiliation may be released with their poster's image through news and social media and displayed online.

Images of posters submitted through this contest may be edited and used by the Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys and program partners for radon outreach and education.

Teacher Name: _____

School/Club/Organization: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Tape this form to the back of the poster or include with digital submission

Posters must be postmarked on or before November 15, 2024 and mailed to the following address OR emailed by 4:30 pm on November 15, 2024:

AK Radon Poster Contest
Attn: Paul Goodfellow
Alaska DNR Geologic Materials Center
3651 Penland Parkway
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

paul.goodfellow@alaska.gov

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