

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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High School Students Participate in Radon Challenge

Students from 13 high schools in Montgomery, Greene, and Clark counties are participating in the Radon Challenge, January 24, 2005 to January 31, 2005. The Challenge provides students the opportunity to test their homes for radon gas, with an added incentive to achieve a higher return of kits than other participating schools in their county. In each county, students with the highest percentage of returned kits will be recognized. This year, the competition has expanded to include an inter-county competition as well, meaning the county with the highest percentage of return will also be recognized. Students at Trotwood Madison, Miamisburg, Kettering Fairmont, and Jefferson high schools are competing against each other in the Montgomery County competition, but will also work together to compete against participating schools in Greene and Clark counties. The competition is made possible through a grant from the Ohio Department of Health and U.S. EPA Region V.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that enters homes through cracks and holes in the foundation and can accumulate in indoor environments. The U.S. Surgeon General recommends all homes be tested for radon, which is colorless, odorless and tasteless. While exposure to elevated levels can increase one's risk for developing lung cancer, homeowners can reduce their exposure by testing their homes and taking appropriate actions to reduce elevated levels. The only way to know if elevated radon levels exist is to test.

Free radon test kits are available for all residents in Clark, Greene, Montgomery, Miami, Preble, and Darke counties. For more information, contact:

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