

## **Radon**

### ***What is radon and where does it come from?***

Radon is a radioactive gas produced by the decay of uranium, which is present to some degree in all soils. The decay process uranium undergoes is a continuous and normal part of nature; radon gas is present at varying levels everywhere except over oceans lakes.

Radon is invisible and no smell or taste, even when it exists at potentially harmful levels of concentration.

### ***How can radon affect my health?***

Most information about the effects of radon comes from studies done on uranium miners over a period of many years. The best evidence available shows that risk is directly proportional to lifetime exposure, that is, the average level of radon to which you have been exposed since you were born.

### ***How does radon get into houses?***

The soil around and below a house is by far the most significant source of radon. The air pressure in the house is normally slightly lower than in the soil and radon, along with other soil gases, is drawn into the house through every opening that connect with the soil.