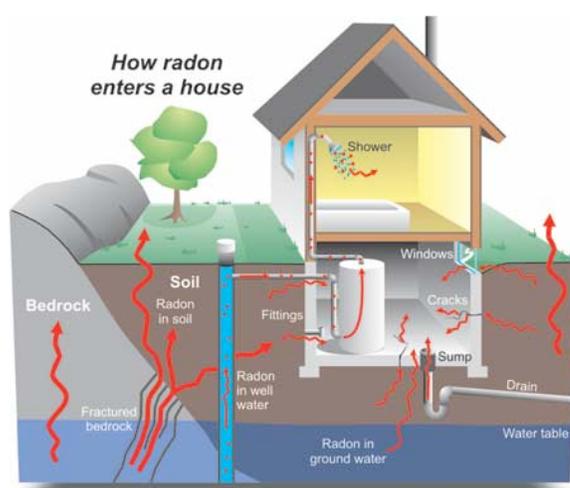


Rocky Hill Board of Health Newsletter

January 2009

Radon Testing Kits Available The Rocky Hill Board of Health is providing radon testing kits to residents at a cost of **\$6**, beginning in **January**. You must pay by check. Pick yours up at Borough Hall on Wednesdays between 3:30 – 6 pm. The supply is limited so call ahead at (609) 924-7445 to be sure of availability.



Radon is a serious health risk. It is the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers and the second leading cause of lung cancer in general. For smokers, the risk of developing lung cancer is increased dramatically if they also are exposed to excess radon. It does not cause any immediate symptoms, such as asthma or respiratory problems.

Radon is an odorless, tasteless and invisible gas that occurs

naturally in soil. It is produced by the natural breakdown of uranium and radium in rock formations, and occurs in higher concentrations in certain areas of the state, including Somerset County.

Radon enters your home as shown in the picture. According to health department data, one of three homes in Somerset County tested during 2008 exceeded the radon action level. In an effort to reduce the risk of exposure to radon gas, the Board of Health encourages residents to have their homes tested. Testing for radon is easy with these kits.

Radon concentrations in a home can be lowered by sealing entry points, by depressurizing the sediment around home foundations, and by improving home ventilation.