

Quality Care For Kids Newsletter

November 2025 | Lung Cancer Awareness Month

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Exposure to radon is the first leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers. Radon is a colorless, tasteless and odorless gas that causes lung cancer. Radon forms naturally. Radon enters a building through cracks in walls, basement floors, foundations and other openings. When radon gets trapped indoors it can be at dangerous levels. Testing is the only way to know if radon is a problem in your child care home or center. Radon testing is easy and low cost.

What if your child care building has elevated levels of radon? You can fix the problem by having a radon mitigation system installed by a certified radon professional.

A radon mitigation system typically consists of:

- Sealing cracks in the foundation, floors, walls, piping or other areas that are allowing radon to enter.
- Installing a vent pipe that draws radon from soil underneath the foundation and vents it outdoors – this is called a passive mitigation system.
- If extra power is needed, an exhaust fan can be connected to the vent pipe for extra power to draw radon from the soil – this is called an active mitigation system.

New resources on the HCCI webpage:

- Child Care Gloving Poster
- Child Care Handwashing Poster
- Child Care Diapering Poster
- Sanitizing Procedure Poster
- Weather Chart
- Weather Think Ahead



Visit Iowa HHS Radon webpage for more information on radon testing

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/health-prevention/providers-professionals/radiological-health/radon>



Radon Testing Protocols for Iowa Licensed Childcare Centers

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/media/7882/download?inline>



Scan the QR code to find your local CCNC or visit online at

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/child-care/hcci>

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