RADON

*FACT*

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**What is a radon management plan?**  
 A radon management plan provides documentation of the radon testing reports and any action taken to lower radon levels.

**When do I use it and where is it located?**

The management plan can be used as a tool when needed. A paper copy should always be available for review or audit in the Main Office. An electronic copy can also be found on the AF Shared Server (afnet.achievementfirst.org).

**How do I use it?**

The plan is organized in sections. Please refer to the table of contents for specific plan details. Located in each plan is a section entitled “Forms and Templates”, here you will find contractor work permits, basic notification letters and other useful information.

**What to do if you cannot find what you’re looking for?**

If there is a specific question regarding the Radon Management Plan you can always contact Diana Alvarado at Team Facilities or use the helpful links below.

**Resources:**

EPA/Radon - Radon in Schools:

<https://www.epa.gov/radon/radon-schools>

<https://iaq.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/sections/202349927>

State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Radon Program at (860) 509-7367

**What is radon?**

Radon is a naturally occurring, radioactive gas found in soil. You cannot see, smell or taste radon.

**What are the dangers of radon?**

Radon is a cancer-causing gas. The Surgeon General has warned that Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. today.

**Where is it commonly found?**

Radon comes from the natural breakdown (radioactive decay) of uranium. It is usually found in igneous rock and soil but in some cases, well water may also be a source of radon.

**What are the health effects of radon exposure?**  
 Radon exposure can lead to lung cancer. Radon gas decays into radioactive particles that can get trapped in your lungs when you breathe. As these particles break down, they release small bursts or energy. This can damage lung tissue and lead to lung cancer over the course of your lifetime.

**Is it dangerous to have radon in my school?**  
 The only way to discover if high levels of radon are present is through testing. An individual’s risk of getting lung cancer from radon depends mostly on three factors: the level of radon, the duration of exposure and their smoking habits.

**What happens if my school fails the test?**

Fortunately, even if your school shows higher levels of radon, the problem can be corrected. There are proven techniques available that will lower risks of lung cancer from radon exposure.

**What are my rights as a teacher or employee regarding access to the management plan?**  
 EPA recommends that all schools nationwide be tested for radon. Parents, teachers, and school employees, or their representatives, have the right to inspect the school’s Radon Management plan at any time. The school must make the plan available.