

Charcoal Canister versus Liquid Scintillation Why charcoal canisters are more appropriate for Real Estate Radon Tests

Special points of interest:

- Same day results reports with charcoal canister radon tests
- RTCA Training Schedule
- Radon Reports by E-mail
- RTCA website to feature on-line shopping
- January is Radon Action Month

On occasion a radon tester will contact RTCA and ask to purchase liquid scintillation test kits for real estate radon tests. RTCA does manufacture and analyze liquid scintillation tests, but RTCA does not offer this type of test for real estate transactions. RTCA recommends the charcoal canister test for real estate testing for one main reason – *charcoal canisters can be processed the day they are received at the laboratory and the results reports can be emailed the same day by close of business.*

RTCA is not able to provide results the same day with the liquid scintillation vials, because when the vials are returned to the



RTCA Charcoal Canister
used for real estate radon test

laboratory for processing, a scintillation “cocktail” needs to be injected into the vials and they must sit over-night before the samples can be analyzed.

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Mailing Requirements for Double-Pack Test Kits

Recently, the post office issued a new postal regulation advising that no package that bears postage stamps weighing more than 13 ounces can be placed in box.

RTCA double-pack test kits weigh over 14 ounces, but can still be placed in US Postal Service drop box as long as you use the RTCA prepaid address label.

However, if you put your own stamps on the package, the postal service will not accept the package and it may be returned to you instead of being delivered to RTCA.

To make sure your package is not returned to you, **write RTCA, 2 Hayes Street, Elmsford, NY 10523 for return address on the RTCA prepaid business reply label.** (Thank you Larry for this suggestion)

If you don't want to drop the RTCA double-pack in the US Postal Service drop box, you may request a free pick-up by the post office—or just leave the package at your home or office for pick-up by your local postal carrier.



Nancy Bredhoff

Nancy Bredhoff Speaker at National Radon Conference

Nancy Bredhoff was invited to speak at the 17th National Radon Conference held in Jacksonville, FL and sponsored by the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD). The target audience was EPA, state, tribal and local radon officials. The presentation entitled *Using the Proficiency Program for Consumer Protection* explained the role of the National Radon Safety Board (NRSB) proficiency program in ensuring radon professionals are providing quality measurement and mitigation services to the consumer and that these services are being conducted according to established protocols recognized by EPA.

The NRSB operates by a Code of Ethics and requires all individuals applying for certification to sign the Code of Ethics. Ms. Bredhoff explained the process by which a consumer, state or practitioner can file a complaint if it is suspected that the certified professional has violated standards of practice. Ms. Bredhoff reviewed the information to be supplied when filing a complaint and the process by which the NRSB reviews and resolves complaints.

Ms. Bredhoff is President of RTCA—Radon Testing Corporation of America, Inc. and volunteers her time to serve as President of the National Radon Safety Board (NRSB)

RTCA recommends that all radon service providers get certified nationally even if the state you operate in does not have a regulatory radon program

Do I need to get certified to conduct radon testing/mitigation?

The following is a list of states that have a certification or registration program:

California	Nebraska
Delaware	New Jersey
Florida	New Mexico
Illinois	New York
Indiana	Ohio
Iowa	Pennsylvania
Maine	Rhode Island
	West Virginia

If you provide radon services in any of these states, you are responsible for complying with the state's certification or registration program. Some states require participation in a national certification program such as the National Radon Safety Board (NRSB).

For information about the NRSB National Radon Proficiency Program contact

National Radon Safety Board (NRSB)

866-329-3474

www.NRSB.org

RTCA Radon Measurement Training Schedule

For a decade, RTCA has been offering the Radon Measurement Operators Course. This two-day course prepares you to take the NRSB, NEHA or State Certification Exam and covers a wide variety of topics, including: Radiation Physics, Health Risks, Radon Sources and Behavior, Measurement Protocols, Methods, Techniques and Devices, Radon in Water, QA/QC, Interpretation of Results and Mitigation overview.

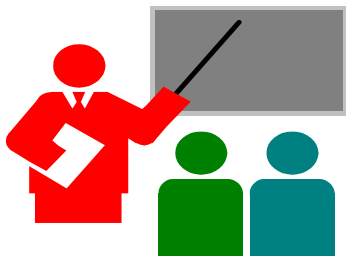
2008 Course Schedule

February 8-9 (Cromwell, CT)

March 4- 5 (Elmsford, NY)

June 3—4 (Elmsford, NY)

RTCA's Radon Course is also approved for 16 CE credits by NRSB, NAHI, CT Home Inspectors and for 2 MRCs by ASHI.





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***RTCA—Where
Professional Radon Professionals
Go for Results***

WWW.RTCA.COM

Radon Action Month - January 2008

January is designated as Radon Action Month

Radon Action Month provides an opportunity to increase consumer awareness about radon and its health risks. The US EPA has developed a public service campaign and marketing tools designed to encourage all Americans to learn about the health risk posed by radon, test for it, and when appropriate take steps to reduce exposure by installing a radon mitigation system.

What does this mean for the radon professional?

Radon Action Month provides an opportunity for you to market your services and take advantage of the media outreach (print, radio and television) public service campaign. The Public Service media campaign for radon features the U.S. Surgeon General's warning that radon causes lung cancer and that you should test your home. These TV, radio and print PSA materials are available in English and Spanish.

Outreach Activities

Initiating radon awareness events and activities in your community, in conjunction with the government PSA campaign will foster the national campaign to spread the message that reduced radon exposure saves lives.

Suggestions for Outreach Activities

- Conduct a radon test demonstration for community group
- Organize community education class on radon and its health risks
- Spread the word about the health risks from radon to friends and neighbors
- Contact your state radon office to learn if there are organized activities in your area