



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Governor Beshear proclaims January 'Radon Action Month'**

Louisville, KY, January 18, 2009 – The Kentucky Association of Radon Professionals (KARP) announced today that Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear has proclaimed January 'Radon Action Month'. The Governor joins the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, local health departments and the Environmental Protection Agency in encouraging Kentuckians to test their homes for radon, reduce elevated levels of radon when found and learn the benefits of building radon-resistant homes.

Radon is a colorless, odorless, tasteless radioactive gas that derives from the radioactive decay of naturally occurring uranium in the soil. The gas enters homes and other buildings through cracks in the foundation, sump pumps and soil in crawlspace areas. The EPA has determined that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer, next to smoking, and the leading cause among non-smokers. The US Surgeon General and National Academy of Sciences estimate that 21,000 radon-related lung cancer deaths occur in the United States each year.

"We join Governor Beshear in urging Kentuckians to test their homes for radon, and fix a problem when found," says Kyle Hoylman, KARP President. "With Kentucky leading the nation in lung cancer incidents, the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers is a serious issue that must be addressed," Hoylman adds.

The only way to know if a home contains elevated radon levels is to have it tested. Testing is easy and affordable. If a home is found to have a radon problem, fixing it is fairly simple and cost-effective. In fact, most radon problems can be fixed for a cost similar to that of many common home repairs, averaging \$1,000 to \$2,500.

### **About KARP**

The Kentucky Association of Radon Professionals is an organization consisting of responsible members of the radon testing, mitigation and laboratory analysis industries. Additional information about the organization can be found at: [KentuckyRadon.org](http://KentuckyRadon.org).

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