



**Date:** 11/16/22

**Performed by:** Andrew Tinklenberg

**Location:** Emerson School – 120 15<sup>th</sup> Street West, Minneapolis, MN 55403

**RE:** Radon Testing

## INTRODUCTION

From November 2 – 4, 2022, radon testing was performed within Emerson School located at 120 15<sup>th</sup> Street West in Minneapolis, MN. The testing was performed to ensure that radon gas concentrations within the building are below the established regulatory limits. Testing was conducted under normal occupied building conditions in frequently-occupied ground contact rooms and other areas in accordance with ANSI/AARST Protocols for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Schools and Large Buildings 2014 with 1/21 Revisions and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

All of the areas that were tested were found to have radon gas levels below 4.0 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L), which is the EPA and MDH action level. The test kits in the Cafeteria (side-by-side duplicate samples) were tampered with/removed and could not be submitted for analysis. But because the radon levels throughout the rest of the building were found to be below 2.0 pCi/L and the number of missing test kits in ground contact locations did not exceed the allowable amount, re-testing in the space is not required (ANSI/AARST Protocol 6.2). (Note: Spike sampling is performed in conjunction with this testing, Duplicate (side-by-side) sampling was conducted in select areas at a rate of 10% of areas tested, and Rooms “A” & “B” were the blank samples.)

The radon test kits were submitted to and analyzed by AirChek, Inc., 1936 Butler Bridge Rd, Mills River, NC 28759 (MN License #RL-00003). Please refer to the attached AirChek radon testing report and sample diagrams for further information concerning the radon testing, areas that were tested, and the radon levels that were found to be present. Per MDH requirements, this information will be shared with the local regulatory agency (MDH - [health.indoorair@state.mn.us](mailto:health.indoorair@state.mn.us), Phone # 651-201-4601) and incorporated in an MPS’ board meeting. The information will also be posted on the EH&S webpage available through the main MPS website and maintained on file by EH&S.

## REMARKS

Every effort was made to maintain closed building conditions and HVAC systems are monitored and controlled remotely by MPS Direct Digital Control (DDC) personnel. Any deviation in building conditions or sampling protocol which could have an impact on the testing and test results is described in the summary above. If any unoccupied areas that were not tested are planned for future occupancy, contact EH&S so that the areas can be tested. Unless specified, all QA/QC measurements were within the required limits. Radon testing is to be performed in MPS District buildings every 5 years or any time major renovation activities take place which have the potential to impact the building’s foundation or HVAC systems. Refer to the attached test condition summary and ANSI/AARST advisories for additional information concerning the radon testing.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact me. Thank you,



Andrew Tinklenberg  
MDH RMEA-00426  
NRPP ID# 111389 RT



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612-668-0306 Phone  
612-668-0310 EH & S General Office  
612-668-0275 Fax



**Attachments**

- Radon Testing Results
- Floor Plans
- Notification Documents
- Test Condition Summary
- ANSI/AARST Advisory Statements

**I5554 / ANDREW TINKLENBERG / MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Kit Number	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time	Temp.	Facility	Building	Room	Project ID	Floor	Result
11268111	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CUSTODIAN OFFICE 01	EMERSON	0	< 0.3
11268114	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 15A	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268115	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 16A	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268116	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	GYM 100 (WEST)	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268117	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	GYM 100 (EAST)	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268118	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 104	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268119	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	MEDIA 17	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268120	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 17B	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268121	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CLASSROOM 17A	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268122	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CLASSROOM 18	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268123	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CLASSROOM 19	EMERSON	1	0.6
11268124	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CLASSROOM 19	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268125	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CLASSROOM 10	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268126	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CLASSROOM 11	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268127	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CLASSROOM 12	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268128	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 14H	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268129	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 14I	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268130	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 14E	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268131	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 14D	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268132	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 14B	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268133	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 14	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268134	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	OFFICE 14A	EMERSON	1	0.6
11268135	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CLASSROOM 22	EMERSON	2	< 0.3
11268136	2022-11-02	7:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CLASSROOM 22	EMERSON	2	< 0.3
11268137	2022-11-02	8:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	CLASSROOM 38	EMERSON	3	< 0.3
11268138	2022-11-02	8:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	ROOM A	EMERSON	1	< 0.3
11268139	2022-11-02	8:00 am	2022-11-04	10:00 am	70	MPS EMERSON	MPS EMERSON	ROOM B	EMERSON	1	< 0.3



MINNEAPOLIS  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Urban Education. Global Citizens.

**Environmental Health & Safety**

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**Andrew Tinklenberg**

**Safety Specialist**

**Environmental Health & Safety**

**RADON TESTING NOTIFICATION (2022)**

**Emerson School**

The District will be conducting short-term radon testing at Emerson School. Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that is created from the breakdown of Radium that is naturally present in soil. Radon can enter buildings from the soil through gaps, cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon testing is performed periodically and is being performed based on Minnesota Department of Health recommendations and protocols. As per the recommendations, frequently occupied, ground level or ground contact areas will be the focus of the testing. Sampling locations will be selected that provide the best representation of these areas.

If your room is selected for testing, please do your part by ensuring that the devices are not removed or tampered with in any way. The devices are small, rectangular envelopes, approximately 4 by 6 inches and will typically be hung from the ceiling or an interior wall. The short-term radon detectors are planned to be placed and collected November 2 – 4, 2022. When available, sample results will be shared with your principal and placed on the EH&S webpage available through the main MPS website.

An example of the detector is pictured below:



Thank you very much for your cooperation. If you have questions, please contact me at 612-668-0306 or [andrew.tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:andrew.tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us)

## Notice of Inspection - Radon Survey in Progress

An important step is being taken to ensure a safe and healthy building. Testing for radon is recommended for all homes and schools.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that can be present in some buildings are concentrations greater than recommended. In the United States, radon exposure is the second leading cause of lung cancer and it is the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers.

### Radon testing is scheduled for:

Building(s): Emerson

Building Area(s): Throughout

Test Start Date: 11/2/22

Test End Date: 11/4/22

Access into your unit/room is:       required     not required

**PLEASE START THE FOLLOWING BY:**

#### Please help to maintain the following required test conditions:

- **Windows and Doors** need to be kept closed (aside from momentary entry and exit) on all levels of the building including areas not being tested,
- **Heating and cooling systems** need to set to normal temperatures (65-80°F),
- **Bathroom fans** should operate normally,
- Do not operate wood-burning or natural gas **fireplaces**,
- **Energy recovery ventilators (ERV) or heat recovery ventilators (HRV)** should be set to the lowest level they are used at through the year, and
- Avoid excessive operation of **exhaust systems** that draw air from laundries, workshops, community kitchens.

### For inquiries or reporting concerns:

Contact Person: Andrew Tinklenberg

Phone: 612-668-0306

Visit [mn.gov/radon](https://mn.gov/radon) for more information about radon

## Authorizations and Lines of Communications

Please complete the following to help us clarify lines of communication and responsibilities.

### Staff authorized to respond to occupant and public inquiries:

Title/Name: Lee Setter Phone: 612-668-0310 Email: lee.setter@mpls.k12.mn.us

Title/Name: Phone: Email:

### Person(s) authorized to receive report data and any incremental reports:

Title/Name: Lee Setter Phone: 612-668-0310 Email: lee.setter@mpls.k12.mn.us

Title/Name: Andrew Tinklenberg Phone: 612-668-0306 Email: andrew.tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us

**Frequency of reports:** Prior to testing After each phase of testing When testing is complete

### Client & Facilitating Staff Contact Information

Client/Authorized Agent: Lee Setter Phone: 612-668-0310 Email: lee.setter@mpls.k12.mn.us

Onsite Supervisor: Andrew Tinklenberg Phone: 612-668-0306 Email: andrew.tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us

Building Access: Andrew Tinklenberg Phone: 612-668-0306 Email: andrew.tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us

HVAC Operations: Jason Kohlen Phone: 612-668-0338 Email: Jason.kohlen@mpls.k12.mn.us

Other Contacts (Title/Name): Phone: Email:

### Radon Testing Professional Contact Information:

Scheduling/Logistics: Andrew Tinklenberg Phone: 612-668-0306 Email: andrew.tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us

On-site Professional: Andrew Tinklenberg Phone: 612-668-0306 Email: [andrew.tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:andrew.tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us)

Licensed Field Technician: Andrew Tinklenberg Phone: 612-668-0306 Email: [andrew.tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:andrew.tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us)

Licensed Field Technician: Phone: Email:

# Client Commitment to Compliance

By signing below, I am committing to help ensure that building conditions required to achieve reliable radon tests are met.

## Management

Help Onsite Supervisors and Building Operations Staff maintain closed-building conditions and meet the requirements list above.

Name: Andrew Tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us


Signature: 

Date: 11/2/22

## Onsite Supervisor

To help ensure reliable radon tests, the onsite supervisor will:

- **Prior Notification:** distribute notices to all building occupants no later than the day before testing. Notices must be given to all occupants regardless if their unit/room is being tested and posted in publicly accessible areas such as corridors, elevators, and offices.
- **Access:** provide access to each test location within the building on the same day for the event of placing test devices and a second event for retrieving test devices.
- Name: Andrew Tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us


Signature: 

Date: 11/2/22

## Building Operations Staff

To help ensure reliable radon tests, Building Operations Staff will:

- **Building Preparation:** no later than 12 hours prior to the start of the test, review each building scheduled for testing for compliance with closed-building requirements.
- **Compliance Verification:** verify closed-building conditions and ensure that any repairs or adjustments that impact these conditions are completed 12 hours prior to the start of the test. Initial when verified.
- Name: Andrew Tinklenberg@mpls.k12.mn.us

Signature: 

Date: 11/2/22

Building Address: 120 15<sup>th</sup> Street W., Mpls., MN

Date Completed: 11/2/22    Initials: AJT

CLIENT COMMITMENT TO COMPLIANCE

<b>Actions Required at Least 12 hours prior to test and throughout</b>	
<b>Windows</b>	Close or seal on all levels of the building, including areas not being tested  Exception: <b>Do not</b> close openings to outside to outside air designed to provide air needed for combustion appliances.
<b>External doors</b> (except for normal entry or exit)	
<b>Other openings to the exterior</b> (as a result of disrepair, incomplete construction or structural defect)	
<b>Heating &amp; Cooling Systems</b>	Set to normal occupied temperatures: 65° - 80°F (Maintenance inspection of systems are recommended prior to testing)
<b>Variable Outdoor Air Ventilation Systems</b> (if applicable)  Systems such as manually operated dampers, energy economizer systems, energy recovery ventilators (ERV), or heat recovery ventilators (HRV) that seasonally vary outdoor air ventilation for energy savings or comfort	Close outside air inlet dampers or set to minimum outdoor air intake settings that apply at all times of the year when a building is significantly occupied
<b>Window Air Conditioners</b>	Dampers to outside air shall be closed
<b>Variable Air Volume (VAV) Systems</b> (if applicable)  Systems that temper room temperature using thermostats to vary the volume of heated or cooled air coming into rooms	Set all thermostats to between 65° - 80°F in all rooms that are served by the system
<b>Return-Air Ducts laid in Soil</b> (if applicable)  Return-air ductwork is located under a slab, or otherwise laid in soil.	<b>All testing company immediately</b>
<b>Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) setback in non-residential locations</b>  If non-residential rooms are operating with HVAC setback temperatures during nights or weekends that are outside of normal occupied temperatures of 65° - 80°F	Alter to retain temperatures within range of 65° - 80°F  <b>Or contact the testing company</b>





## Emerson Test Condition Summary

November 2-4, 2022 – Minneapolis, MN (Climate Zone 6)

	Annually	During Testing
<b>Outdoor Temperatures</b>	Average = 46° F	Max. = 73° F Min. = 40° F Average = 56° F
<b>Operating Conditions (Heating/Cooling)</b>	Heating – 50% Cooling – 25% Mixed – 25%	Heating – 100% Cooling – 0% Mixed – 0%
<b>Air Distribution Systems</b>	Intermittent during summer	Active

\* - Note: Minimal rainfall was recorded during the last day of the testing period.

### Informative Advisories

1. Fluctuations in radon concentrations are usually caused by either:
  - changes in the strength of indoor air pressures that draw soil gas into a building; or
  - changes in the volume of outside air entering a building.
2. Clear characterization of a radon hazard is more likely to occur when:
  - Outdoor temperatures extend below 65°F (18°C), at least intermittently, which causes natural indoor air pressures that draw radon laden soil gas into a building; and
  - Heating or cooling distribution fans are at least intermittently active during a test.
3. Measurements more likely to reflect an occupant’s exposure to radon are measurements conducted under conditions that most closely align to the building operating conditions that prevail during the greatest amount of time each year.

\* - Above advisory information is taken from page 31 of the ANSI/AARST Standard, “Protocols for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Schools and Large Buildings, 2014 with 1/21.” Additional advisory notes/information will be added when necessary. Weather information was collected from [timeanddate.com/weather/usa/minneapolis](http://timeanddate.com/weather/usa/minneapolis).

## ANSI/AARST ADVISORY STATEMENTS

### 8-A Reporting Low Radon Concentrations

Consider fixing the building if test results indicate radon concentrations greater than half the action level, (e.g., between 2 and 4 pCi/L). Responsible care requires repeating initial testing procedures for all building(s) at least every 5 years and in conjunction with any sale of a building. Radon testing should also be conducted when any of the following circumstances occur:

- a new addition is constructed or alterations for building reconfiguration or rehabilitation occur;
- a ground contact area not previously tested is occupied, or a building is newly occupied;
- heating or cooling systems are significantly altered, resulting in changes to air pressures or pressure relationships;
- ventilation is significantly altered by extensive weatherization, changes to mechanical systems or comparable procedures;
- significant openings to soil occur due to:
  - groundwater or slab surface water control systems that are altered or added (e.g., sumps, perimeter drain tile, shower/tub retrofits, etc.) or,
  - natural settlement causing major cracks to develop;
- earthquakes or construction blasting, fracking or formation of sink holes nearby; or
- a mitigation system is altered, modified or repaired.

Should testing indicate concentrations that meet or exceed the action level, conduct evaluations, corrections and further testing until radon concentrations have been mitigated to below the action level.

### Table 8-B Reporting Elevated Radon Concentrations

Fix the building. Test results indicate occupants may be exposed to radon concentrations that meet or exceed the action level. Efforts to reduce radon concentrations are not complete until retests provide evidence of effectiveness. The initial retest should be conducted within 30 days after mitigation efforts and system installations.

Post-mitigation clearance testing to confirm each building is fixed requires testing all buildings that demonstrated elevated radon concentrations:

- 1) in all ground-contact rooms and dwellings,
- 2) in not less than 10% of non-residential rooms and dwellings on each upper floor.

Should testing indicate concentrations that meet or exceed the action level, conduct evaluations, corrections and further testing until radon concentrations have been mitigated to below the action level.

\* - Above advisory information is taken from page 28-29 of the ANSI/AARST Standard, "Protocols for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Schools and Large Buildings, 2014 with 1/21 Revisions." Additional advisory notes/information will be added when necessary.