WAYZATA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Buildings & Grounds Department | Central Service Facility
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Radon Testing Results – Fall 2023

Wayzata Public Schools (WPS) is committed to providing a safe and healthy learning and work environment for all of our students and staff. In accordance with Minnesota Statute 123B.571, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), WPS performs radon testing in school buildings every five years.

What is Radon?

Radon is a colorless, odorless, tasteless, radioactive gas that occurs naturally in soil, rocks, and underground water supplies and in the ambient air. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), radon gas has been associated with an increased risk of developing lung cancer. The chances of developing lung cancer from radon exposure are dependent on several factors, including individual susceptibility and, perhaps more importantly, the dose and duration of exposure.

WPS Radon Evaluation Criteria

The testing was conducted under "closed building conditions" per the recommendations of MDH which includes:

1. Testing all ground contact locations that are occupied or intended to be occupied
2. Testing during the colder months when the building is heated (November through March) when the radon risk is most likely to occur
3. Testing during school days when the building is significantly occupied and
4. HVAC system set on a normal occupied operating schedule and Windows and doors closed.

The MDH and the EPA have established an action level for radon in indoor air at 4.0 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) for an annual average.

Radon Testing Results

The District collaborated with the Institute for Environmental Assessment (IEA) to conduct a comprehensive investigation of radon levels in its buildings. IEA placed Air Chek Pro Chek short-term radon test kits from November 27 to November 30, 2023, November 28 to December 1, 2023, and January 3 to January 5, 2024, for a total short-term sampling period of 3 days in 1,113 locations in the following buildings to test for radon levels:

- Creekside – 15 locations
- Central Services Facility – 30 locations
- Greenwood Elementary – 82 locations
- Meadow Ridge Elementary – 57 locations
- Oakwood Elementary – 103 locations
- Sunset Hill Elementary – 70 locations
- Central Middle School – 155 locations
- Wayzata High School – 169 locations
- Welcome Center – 9 locations
- Birchview Elementary – 62 locations
- Gleason Lake Elementary – 45 locations
- Kimberly Lane Elementary – 69 locations
- North Woods Elementary – 60 locations
- Plymouth Creek Elementary – 65 locations
- Transitions Building – 15 locations
- East Middle School – 61 locations
- West Middle School – 46 locations

The samples were sent to an MDH certified laboratory for analysis. Of the 1302 total samples analyzed, the results identified 2 locations as above the standard limit of 4.0 (pCi/L).

- Transitions Building – Room A127
- Wayzata Central Middle School – Room A152

Follow-up Testing and Results

Continuous Radon Monitoring (CRM) testing is recommended for follow-up in elevated rooms within 30 days of initial testing. Accordingly, CRM was conducted from January 23-25, 2024, in the Transitions Building and Wayzata Central Middle School.
The results showed that the

- Average radon levels during the workday in the Transitions Building Room A127 were 2.6 pCi/L on the first day of testing and 3.0 pCi/L on the second day of testing.
- Average radon levels during the workday in Wayzata Central Middle School Room A152 was 1.3 pCi/L on the first day of testing and 1.4 pCi/L on the second day of testing.

Based on the results of the CRM test, it was concluded that the radon levels in both tested locations were below the action level during the workday, and therefore, no mitigation was necessary.

How Can I Learn More?

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Health & Safety at 763-745-5152.

Reports are also available by contacting Chandala Nagendrappa at 763-745-5152 or chandala.nagendrappa@wayzataschools.org.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience during the testing.