RC FIELDS
HOME INSPECTION & RADON SERVICES

Understanding
Radon: 101

A Minnesota home owners guide to testing, results and mitigation.



1. Minnesota has a radon problem
2. Elevated exposure causes health risks
3. Testing can tell you your home's radon #
4. Mitigation will reduce radon levels if high

Test. Mitigate. Protect. Breathe Easy.

Radon is an invisible, odorless, tasteless gas naturally released from the ground. The only way to know how much radon is in your home is to test.

Sources: Minnesota Department of Health | U.S. EPA

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Why Is Radon Dangerous?

Radon is a naturally occurring, tasteless, colorless, and odorless, radioactive gas produced by the decay of uranium and radium in rock and soil.

It moves up through the ground and accumulates indoors, often to levels that can pose a health risk.

It is estimated that nearly 25% of the U.S. (1 in 15 homes) may be exposed to dangerous concentrations of radon.

The only way to know your radon level, is to test for it.

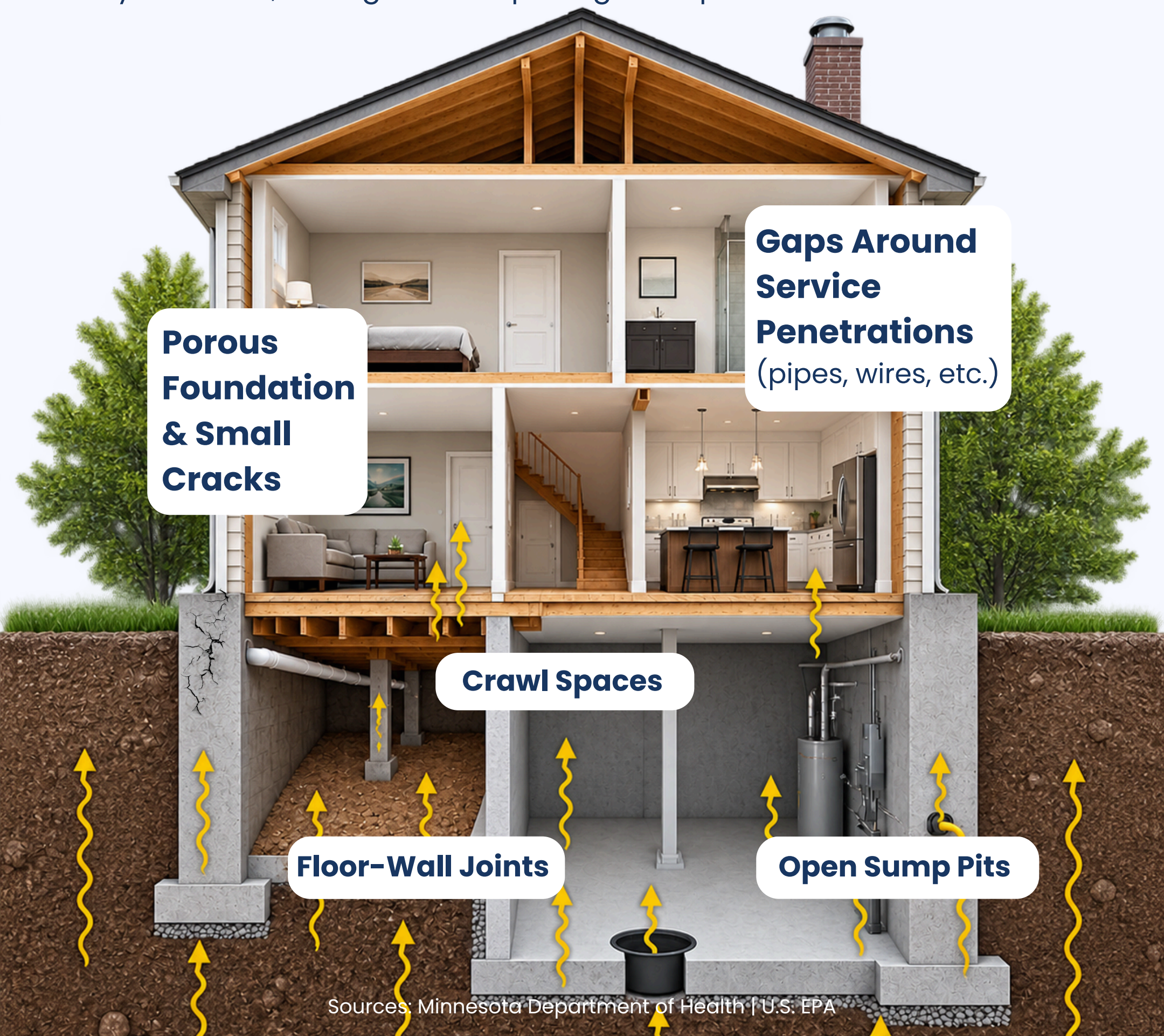


Sources: Minnesota Department of Health | U.S. EPA

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How Does Radon Get In?

Pressure differences draw harmful radon gas from the soil, into your home, through small openings and porous foundation.



Sources: Minnesota Department of Health | U.S. EPA

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Minnesota Has A Radon Problem



More than 2 in 5

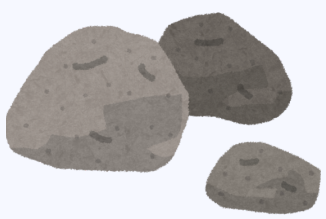
Minnesota homes have radon levels that pose a significant health risk.

Minnesota's average radon level is more than

3x

higher than the U.S. average

(4.2 pCi/L vs 1.3 pCi/L)



Geology

Minnesota's geology, including uranium-rich bedrock and glacial soils, can produce higher radon levels.



Climate & Heating

Our cold climate keeps homes closed up for long periods, and lower indoor pressure from heating systems can draw more radon indoors.



Any Home. New or Old.

Every home has some level of radon, even tightly sealed or drafty homes, and homes with or without basements.

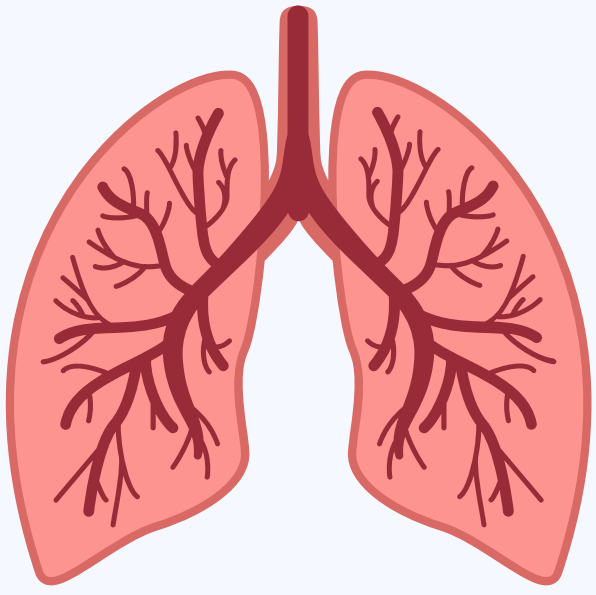


Sources: Minnesota Department of Health | U.S. EPA

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Radon Exposure Is A Health Risk

Long Term Exposure to Radon can Cause Lung Cancer.



#1 cause of lung cancer among non-smokers

#2 overall cause of lung cancer after smoking

Cumulative Risks:

Higher radon levels + longer exposure = greater cancer risk.

Smoking, plus radon exposure, greatly increases the risk of lung cancer.

~21,000 radon related lung cancer deaths in the U.S. each year

There is no known 'completely safe' level of radon exposure. Lower is always better.

Sources: Minnesota Department of Health | U.S. EPA

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Take Time for A Radon Test

The Minnesota Department of Health recommends every home be tested for radon.

Short-Term Test

Typically

2-7 Days

A quick screening method

Long-Term Test

At least

90 Days

Best estimates your annual average radon

Place the test in the lowest level **suitable for occupancy** (follow device or professional instructions).

For test results under 3 months, **maintain closed-house conditions** (keep windows & exterior doors closed, except for normal entry and exit).

Sources: Minnesota Department of Health | U.S. EPA

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Know Your Radon Number

Radon is measured in picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L).

The U.S. EPA action level is 4.0 pCi/L.

Below 2 pCi/L



Retest every 2 - 5 years.

2.1 - 3.9 pCi/L

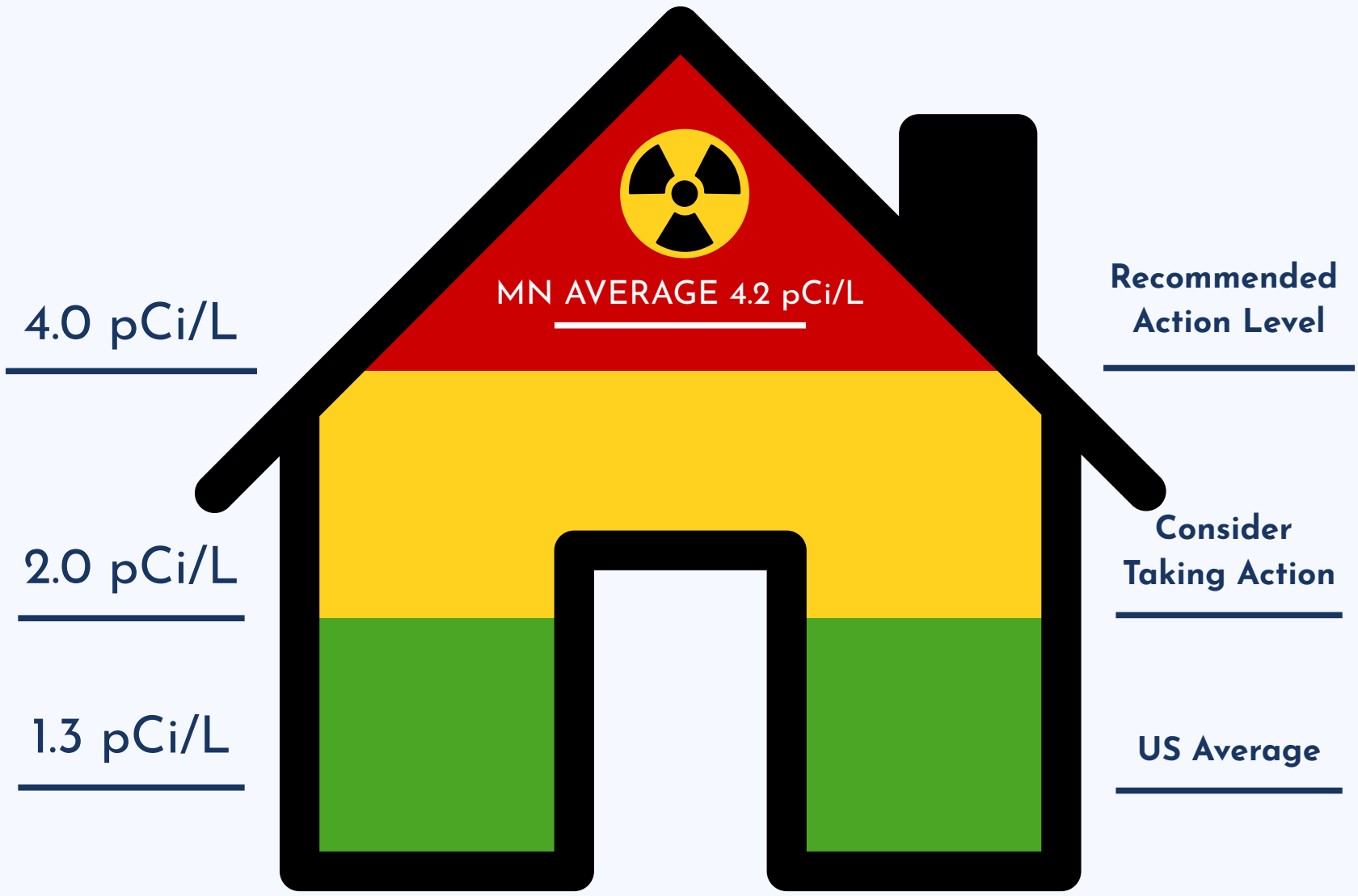


Consider mitigation.

4.0 pCi/L or Higher



Mitigate.



Sources: Minnesota Department of Health | U.S. EPA

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When You Should Test for Radon

For Minnesota Homes

Every 2 Years – with a mitigation system

Every 5 Years – without a mitigation system

OR your home has never been tested & you don't know your radon level

Before and after **major home changes** such as finishing a basement, additions, or renovations.

After **energy-efficient improvements** (e.g. new windows, insulation or air sealing).

After changes to kitchen ventilation (like a new hood) or **upgraded HVAC systems**.

If you begin **occupying a lower level** in the home or spend a lot of time in the basement.

After Mitigation. The MDH recommends waiting at least 24 hours after the new system has been operating.

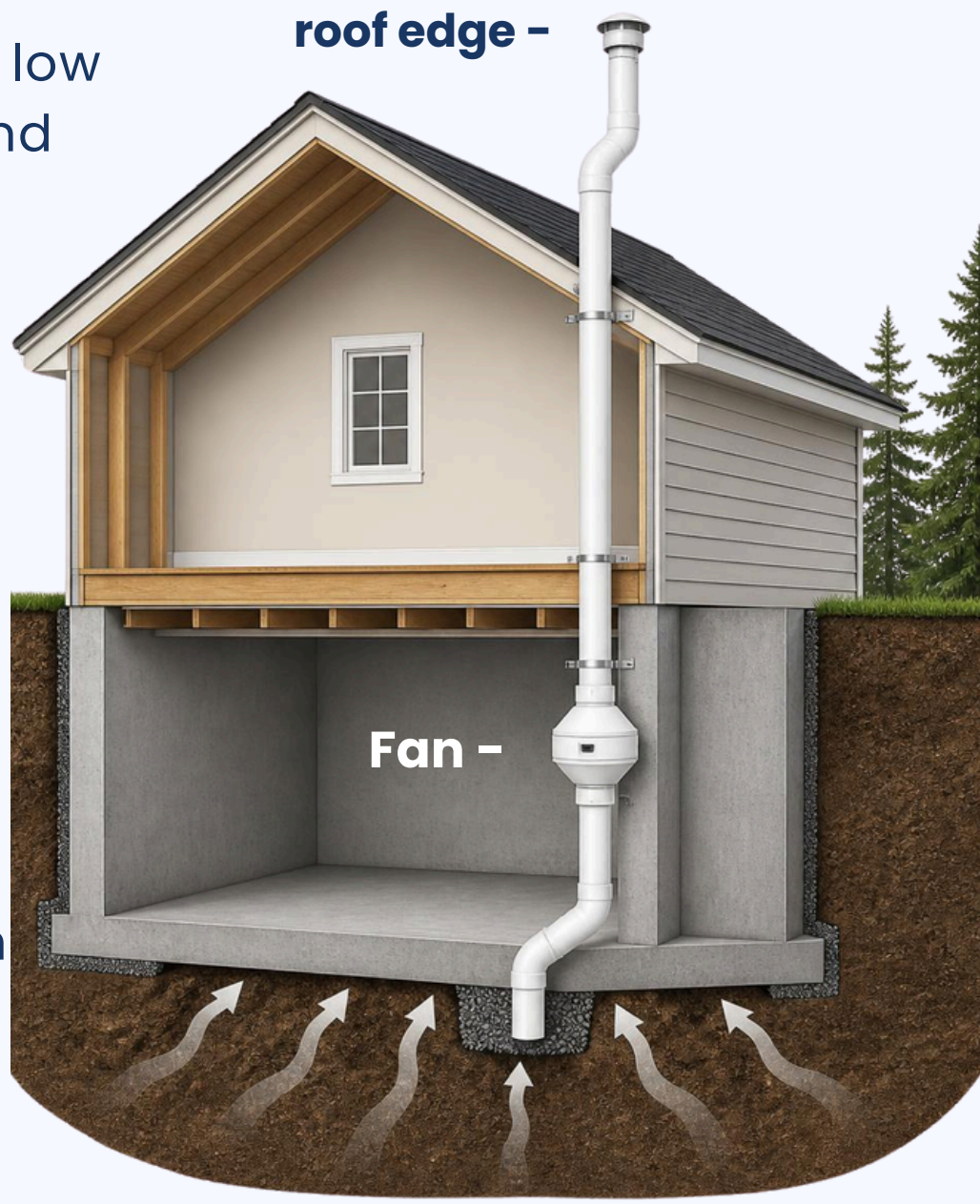
Sources: Minnesota Department of Health | U.S. EPA

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The Basics of Radon

Mitigation

Most homes are mitigated using active soil depressurization. A fan continuously pulls radon-containing soil gas from beneath the foundation and vents it safely outdoors above the roof edge.



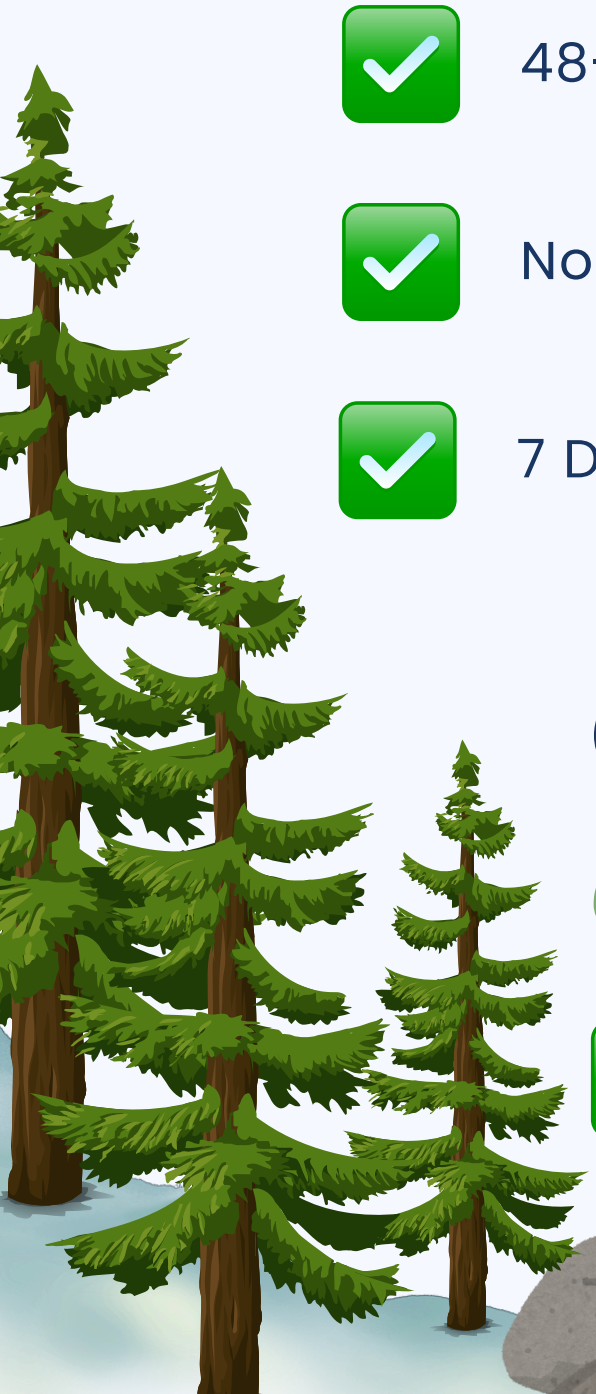
- ✅ Reduces radon levels (as low as possibly achievable and below 4 pCi/L).
- ✅ A quality system may reduce year-round levels **below 2 pCi/L.**
- ✅ Sealing foundation cracks and openings improves efficiency.
- ✅ Minnesota requires radon mitigation professionals to be licensed.
- ✅ Post-Mitigation is completed to ensure the system is working.

Sources: Minnesota Department of Health | U.S. EPA

RC Fields
is Here to Help

Questions about radon, testing, mitigation or an existing system? We're here to help.

From the Twin Cities to the North Woods, we've been helping homeowners and real estate agents test for, understand and solve their home's radon problems since 2010.



- ✅ 48-hour, CRM, reliable radon testing & results
- ✅ No-Obligation Mitigation Consultations
- ✅ 7 Days a Week | 8a - 7p | Easy Online Requests

Call or Text:
612-568-1234

✅ rcfieldshomeinspections.com