

MINNESOTA RADON POSTER CONTEST

Introduction

Radon is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas that can cause lung cancer. The U.S. Surgeon General lists radon exposure as the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. This radioactive element comes from the ground and can easily enter homes and buildings through foundation openings. The only way to detect the amount of radon present is to test for it.

Purpose and Goal

The Nation Radon Poster Contest serves to raise awareness of the harmful effects of elevated levels of indoor radon gas and promote testing and mitigation of indoor radon. By participating in this activity, students will learn about radon and how to reduce their risk of exposure.

Poster Topics

Poster entries are accepted on the following topics:

1. What is radon?
2. Where does radon come from?
3. How does radon get into our homes?
4. Radon can cause lung cancer.
5. Test your home for radon.
6. Mitigating radon in your home.

Eligibility

Youth ages 9-14 are eligible. They may be enrolled in a public, private, territorial, tribal, Department of Defense (DoD), or home school; or qualify through a sponsoring club, such as art, computer, reading or science clubs, scouting organizations, or 4-H clubs. Only one entry per child may be submitted.

Submission/Prizes

Each Poster and the Artwork Submission Form must be submitted to Marc Katz, Program Planner, via email (marc.katz@state.mn.us) by November 17th 2023 to be eligible for the National Radon Poster Contest. The state winner will be notified in late November and entered into the 2024 National Contest with prizes to be awarded by CRCPD, compliments of the American Lung Association (ALA), the following January.

Artwork Requirements

- Be original
- No student names on the front of the poster
- Artwork Submission Form must be included with the poster
- White paper – 8 ½” x 11” or 11” x 17” size is preferred, but all submission sizes will be accepted (preferred size best for easier reproducibility)
- Can be created with crayon, markers, paint (watercolor, tempera, and acrylic), collage, pencil, photographs or computer graphics.
- Lettering and message should be large enough to reproduce well, with all pencil markings erased
- Copyrighted characters, product logos, and trademarked or brand names cannot be used

Judging Criteria

- Content accuracy on radon
- Visual communication of topic
- Reproducibility (larger letters, good contrast)
- Originality
- No grammatical and/or typographical errors

Winners announced

The first place state winner will be entered in the National Radon Poster Contest, organized and sponsored by the CRCPD and ALA. The top three national posters will each win a cash prize:

1st place: \$1,000

2nd place: \$300

3rd place: \$200

Note: Posters may be used for education and outreach. Each applicant should include a signed release on the Artwork Submission Form for use of the poster.

Resources

Minnesota Department of Health Radon Page: www.mn.gov/radon

U.S. EPA: www.epa.gov/radon

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/radon>

Radon Leaders: www.radonleaders.org

National Radon Program Services: sosradon.org

CRCPD: www.crcpd.org