



**Jefferson County**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE**

Public Health Facility, 531 Meade Street, Watertown, New York 13601

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

Faith Lustik, Health Planner  
(315) 786-3723

**Public Health Offers Free Residential Radon Test Kits**

**Watertown, NY, July 21, 2016** ~ The Jefferson County Public Health Service (JCPHS) is pleased to offer free radon test kits for those households interested in learning the level of radon in their homes. Homeowners will be required to sign a form agreeing to perform the test and submit the test to the NYS Department of Health in the postage paid envelope that will be provided. Quantities are limited.

Radon exposure kills an estimated 20,000 people in the U.S. each year - a number that could be dramatically reduced by easy, inexpensive home testing and repair. Jefferson County is an area known to be at risk for high levels of radon. As a result, JCPHS was awarded a five year grant from the NYS Department of Health to educate the community about the risk of radon exposure.

Ginger Hall, Director of Public Health explains, "The only way to know if you are at high risk for radon exposure is to test your home. Conducting a radon test is as easy as opening a package, placing the detector in a designated area, and after a set number of days, sending the detector back to the lab for analysis."

Also, if you are planning to build a new home, consider installing the necessary mitigation materials then test your home when it is built. If the results are high, the equipment can be easily installed.

If your household is interested in obtaining a Radon test kit, please contact JCPHS at 786-3730. If you want to learn more about radon go to [www.health.ny.gov/environmental/radiological/radon/radon](http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/radiological/radon/radon) or [www.epa.gov/radon](http://www.epa.gov/radon).

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