



University of Nevada
Cooperative Extension

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2016 Nevada Radon Poster Contest offers cash prizes

Poster contest deadline fast approaching

RENO, Nev. – Nevada students are invited to showcase their artistic talents and promote radon awareness by entering the 2016 Nevada Radon Poster Contest, sponsored by University of Nevada Cooperative Extension's Radon Education Program. The Oct. 31 deadline to enter is fast approaching.

The contest is open to all children ages 9 to 14 years old enrolled in public, private, territorial, tribal, Department of Defense and home schools. Children can also enter through a sponsoring group, such as art, computer, library, reading, science, scouting, youth or 4-H club.

Radon is a radioactive, colorless, odorless and tasteless gas that comes from the decay of uranium. It accumulates in homes and can cause lung cancer. This type of lung cancer risk is preventable, and the only way to know if a home has elevated levels is to test for it.

The poster contest is offered by the Nevada Radon Education Program and is sponsored by Cooperative Extension and the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health. Cooperative Extension works to raise awareness of the dangers of radon in the homes by providing educational presentations and low cost radon test kits. Since 2008, more than 21,014 homes in Nevada were tested. Of 17,255 valid test results collected, 4,549 have elevated radon concentrations. Once radon is detected, there are fairly easy, inexpensive ways to reduce the radon exposure and reduce the risk of lung cancer.

Posters in this year's Nevada Radon Poster Contest should convey one of these messages: 1) What is radon? 2) Where does radon come from? 3) How does radon get into our homes? 4) Radon can cause lung cancer, and 5) Test your home for radon. Posters will be judged on content accuracy, visual communication of the topic, reproducibility and originality. They can be created with crayon, markers, paint, collage, pencil, photographs or computer graphics. There is no fee to enter, but each child is limited to one entry. Entries must be received at 4955 Energy Way in Reno by Oct. 31.

Cash prizes for the top three entries are \$75 for first place, \$60 for second, \$45 for third. The top three entries are also awarded cash prizes for their teachers or sponsoring organization's representative.

Contact Jamie Roice-Gomes, radon education coordinator for Cooperative Extension, at 775-336-0252 or roicej@unce.unr.edu for more information on the contest. For more information on the dangers of radon and the Nevada Radon Education Program, visit www.RadonNV.com or call the Radon Hotline at 1-888-Radon10 (888-723-6610).

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University of Nevada Cooperative Extension is the College of the University of Nevada, Reno that is engaged in every Nevada county, presenting research-based knowledge to address critical community needs. It is a county-state-federal partnership providing practical education to people, businesses and communities. For more information on its programs, visit www.unce.unr.edu.

Nevada's land-grant university founded in 1874, the University of Nevada, Reno ranks in the top tier of best national universities by U.S. News and World Report and is steadily growing in enrollment, excellence and reputation. The University serves nearly 21,000 students. Part of the Nevada System of

Higher Education, the University is home to the University of Nevada School of Medicine, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and Wolf Pack Athletics. Through a commitment to world-improving research, student success and outreach benefiting the communities and businesses of Nevada, the University has impact across the state and around the world. For more information, visit www.unr.edu.

Contact: Jamie Roice-Gomes

Radon Education Coordinator
University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
4955 Energy Way
Reno, Nevada 89502
roicej@unce.unr.edu
775-336-0252
www.RadonNV.com