

Item # 3

# PROCLAMATION

## “National Radon Action Month” January 2009

**WHEREAS**, radon is a colorless, odorless, naturally occurring radioactive gas that may threaten the health of our citizens and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, the challenge is that we can't see, smell or taste radon, so it's easy to forget that radon may be a problem in homes, schools and any building in Carson City; and

**WHEREAS**, radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and the number one cause among nonsmokers; and

**WHEREAS**, any home in Carson City may have elevated levels of radon, even if other homes in the same neighborhood do not; and

**WHEREAS**, testing for radon is simple and inexpensive and when identified, the problems can be fixed; and

**WHEREAS**, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, the Nevada State Health Division and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are supporting efforts to encourage Americans to test their homes for radon, mitigate elevated levels of radon, and have new homes built with radon-reducing materials and features.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Robert L. Crowell, Mayor of Carson City, Nevada, do hereby proclaim January 2009 as “National Radon Action Month” in Carson City.



Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> Day of January 2009.

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Robert L. Crowell, Mayor

In Nevada, radon is present at elevated levels in about one in ten homes. In Carson City, recent testing has revealed that 30% of the homes tested had elevated levels of radon. In zip code, 89703, 50% of the homes had elevated levels.

Radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer deaths in the United States and the No. 1 cause among nonsmokers. The EPA estimates that more than 20,000 deaths each year in the U.S. are caused by radon exposure. In light of these concerns, the EPA has designated January as National Radon Action Month. During National Radon Action Month, the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and the Nevada State Health Division, in conjunction with the EPA, will strengthen our efforts to educate the public about the dangers of radon and what can be done to minimize the health risk from exposure to elevated levels of indoor radon. As part of our education efforts we will hold classes where citizens can learn more about the dangers of radon and offer free test kits to all Nevadan's interested in testing their homes. We also hope the media will run public service announcements throughout the month.

For more information:  
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