RADON PROGRAM

INFORMATION NOTICE 2020-001

January 2020

Radon Measurement Guidelines, Protocols and Standards To Be Followed By Iowa Certified Radon Measurement Specialists

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) is issuing this information notice to notify Iowa Radon Measurement Specialists of the change in approved radon measurement guidelines, protocols and standards that are to be followed when conducting radon measurements in buildings and the quality assurance/quality control measures that accompany the use of the various approved testing devices. It is expected that recipients will review the information for applicability to their individual situations and consider actions as appropriate. No written response to this notice is required.

DEFINITIONS AND APPLICABLE RULES:
Per IAC 641 Chapter 43 Minimum Requirements for Radon Testing and Analysis, Section 43.4(1) *a.* (6), an application for a radon measurement specialist must include a signed statement that the individual will follow all EPA radon measurement guidelines and protocols.

DISCUSSION:
Based on the above, it has been standard practice for the program to have certified measurement specialists follow the following protocols and guidelines originally developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) relating to radon measurement:

- "Indoor Radon and Radon Decay Product Measurement Device Protocols" (EPA 402-R-92-004 July 92)
- "Protocols for Radon and Radon Decay Product Measurements in Homes" (EPA 402-92-003 May 93)
- "Radon Measurement in Schools" Revised Edition (EPA 402-R-92-014, July 1993)
- National Proficiency Program "Guidance on Quality Assurance" (EPA 402-R-95-012, October 1997)

The EPA has not developed or published guidelines or protocols for testing other structures such as large or multi-family buildings.

In August of 2019, EPA published a notice to States updating their guidance on the use of Voluntary Consensus Standards (VCS). That document states the as a general principle, the Federal government's reliance on privately developed voluntary consensus based standards is to be preferred over the Federal government developing such standards.

Because of EPA's recommended guidance to reference the most the most current voluntary consensus-based standards (VCS), the department will now be requiring Iowa Radon Measurement Specialists certified through the department's program to follow the below listed standard published by the American National Standards Institute/American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (ANSI/AARST) as applicable for the building they are conducting radon or radon progeny measurements in:

- "Protocols for Measuring Radon and Radon Decay Products in Homes" (MAH 2019)
- "Protocols for Measuring Radon and Radon Decay Products in Schools and Large Buildings" (MALB 2014)
- "Protocol for Conducting Radon and Radon Decay Product Measurements in Multifamily Buildings" (MAMF-2017)

The development of quality assurance/quality control plans and programs within your business should be based on the below ANSI/AARST standard:

- "Radon Measurement Systems Quality Assurance" (MS-QA 2019)

These above standards are all available to view for free via the EPA or AARST/NRPP websites.

- https://www.epa.gov/radon/radon-standards-practice
- https://standards.aarst.org/

The cost to purchase a printed or electronic PDF copy is approximately $50.

Please review the standards and update your QA\QC plans accordingly. This may include information on the testing of structures other than a single family residence. We will not be requiring that new QA\QC plans be submitted at this time but it may be requested as part of renewal.

Persons determined to be in violation of the requirements of 641 IAC Chapter 43, to include the above requirements, may be subject to denial, suspension, revocation, or modification of one or both credentials.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Randy Lane at (515) 281-4928 or randy.lane@idph.iowa.go

Please read this information notice carefully and consult the IDPH website for rules cited in this notice.
FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THE APPLICABLE RULES MAY RESULT IN ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Angela Leek, Chief