



How do I know that my neighbour's radon mitigation system isn't affecting the radon levels inside my house?

The most accurate way to determine levels inside a home is to test the home for radon using a long-term radon monitor. High radon levels can easily be reduced.


To reduce radon levels, a radon mitigation system can be installed. A C-NRPP Certified Radon Mitigation Professional is trained to install a system in accordance with all pertinent standards and guidelines.

A radon mitigation system consists of a pipe extending from below the basement floor slab or membrane, up through the interior where it connects to a fan, then terminates outside the home in the radon discharge pipe. This method of radon mitigation, if properly installed, creates a negative pressure below the slab and/or membrane thus drawing the soil gases out through the installed system rather than allowing them to move from the soil space beneath the building and into the home.

The radon discharge pipe can be located at the side of a house or through the roof, but there are specifications that must be met in order to prevent the radon gas from re-entering the house or entering the neighbouring houses.

If my neighbour has a radon system installed, and the discharge pipe is pointed at my house, how do I know it's not increasing the radon levels in my house?

Research shows that radon disperses quickly once discharged outdoors. Installations standards have set minimum clearance distances for radon system discharge pipes to further ensure that radon-laden air doesn't re-enter the original house or enter the neighbouring house (see reverse). If you are concerned about the radon levels within your home, you should test your own home for radon. Detectors are easily available.

 Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the ground.

Radon is odourless and invisible; the only way to know your radon level is to test.

Exposure to elevated levels of radon is linked to increased chances of developing lung cancer.

16% of lung cancers in Canada are linked to radon exposure. Radon is the number 1 cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.

Radon enters buildings through contact with the ground.

Health Canada recommends every home be tested for radon.

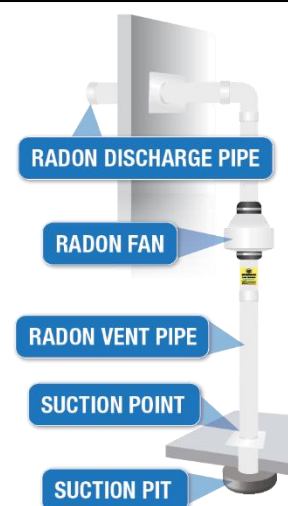


Table 1: Clearances

Minimal clearances for all types of radon discharges

Placement of radon discharge pipes shall follow the required minimal clearances listed in Table 1.

What research is available on side-wall discharge?

Fixing Houses with High Radon – A Canadian Demonstration CMHC March 2008, Scott, A.G.; Fugler, D.

A test case in Kanata in fall 2007 provided an opportunity to test a side wall installation in Canada in a high-radon home.

Depressurization Residential Radon Mitigations at Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg: Comparison of Above Ground Level (RIM JOIST) and Above Roof Line Discharge of Radon Mitigation SUB-SLAB Systems; Health Physics 2012 Brossard, M; Brascoupe, M; Brazeau, C; Falcomer, R; Ottawa, B; Scott, A; Whyte, J

Radon Mitigation in Cold Climates at Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg, Brossard, M; Ottawa, C. B. Falcomer, R; Whyte, J

Locations	Required minimal clearances (m)
Clearance to a mechanical air supply inlet	1.8
Clearance to permanently closed window	0.3
Clearance to an openable window	1.0
Clearance from a door that may be opened	0.3
Clearance from a door that has an openable window	1.0
Clearance to outside corner	0.3
Clearance to inside corner	0.3
Clearance above paved sidewalk or paved driveway located on public property	2.1
Clearance above grade- from a veranda, a porch, a deck, or a balcony	0.3
Vertical clearance below soffits or from any attic venting component	1.0
Horizontal clearance from an area directly below the discharge where there is a risk of injury from ice falling	1.0
NOTE: The selection of the exhaust point should be made considering maximal available clearances from building openings and from outdoor occupancy areas.	

Other questions? Feel free to contact C-NRPP Offices:

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