

**Seminar**  
**RADON ISSUES FOR BUILDERS**

- I. Qualifications
- II. What is radon?
  - A. Radioactive gas
  - B. Measured in pCi/l
- III. How common is it?
  - A. National: 7% of all homes
  - B. Local: See brochure
- IV. Is it really a health risk?
  - A. Medical expert opinions
  - B. Have lots of human studies
  - C. Physiological effects
- V. Radon tests
  - A. Protocols (See the "Guide" p.14)
  - B. Tampering
  - C. Long Term: Alpha track, 1 month to 1 year
  - D. Short term: 48 hours, closed house 12 hours before and during the test
  - E. Prevalence of testing
- VI. How does radon get in?
  - A. Nearby source of uranium
  - B. Entry pathways
  - C. Driving force
  - D. Radon in water
- VII. Reducing radon
  - A. Sealing: 0 – 50% reductions, \$150 - \$250, add \$150 - \$350 for crawl
  - B. Sub Slab Depressurization: 80% - 99% reductions, \$900 - \$1,200
  - C. Heat recovery ventilator: 25% - 50% reductions, \$1,700 - \$2,200
  - D. Hiring a contractor
- VIII. Can you pre-identify radon prone houses?
  - A. Tight versus drafty? No
  - B. By foundation type: Poured, blocks, wood or stone? No
  - C. By soil type? No
- IX. Radon Resistant New Construction (RRNC)
  - A. EPA recommendations
  - B. East Moline project
  - C. Concrete block problems
- X. "Radon Ready" new construction
  - A. Interior drain tile at all levels
  - B. Accessible sump (for a potential suction point)
  - C. Tight wall / floor joint
  - D. Unfinished area adjacent to garage
  - E. Radon vent rough in?
  - F. Passive radon vent?