Making Sense of your Radon Test Results
Next steps to protect your family

Step 1: Be clear about what you tested
Before you look at the numbers, be sure you know:
• Whether results are for water or air or both
• Whether water test results were for a private well. You need a radon water test only for well water, not for town or public supply.
If you are on well water and tested just your water, keep in mind that you also need to test your air.

Step 2: Pay attention to the numbers. Don’t worry about “pCi/L”
The letters pCi/L are short for “picocuries per liter.” This is a measurement scientists use. What matters to you are the numbers. Don’t worry about those letters after the numbers.

Step 3: Make wise treatment decisions.
If you are on well water, be sure to test both your water and your air. You need results from both to decide whether and how to treat a radon problem.
High levels of radon in water and air can be reduced to fall within safety guidelines. Treating a radon problem is a smart health investment.

Understand Well Water Test Results
Safe levels of radon in well water measure below 4,000 pCi/L. If your well water number is:
• 10,000 or higher
  You need a treatment system (list on back).
• Between 4,000 and 10,000 – maybe treat
  Call us to discuss: 1-800-232-0842.
• 4,000 or lower
  Retest in 3 to 5 years.

Understand Air Test Results
Short-term tests (48-60 hours) are the most common, often done before homes are sold. If your air test number is:
• 4 or higher
  You need a treatment system (list on back).
• Between 2 and 4 – maybe treat
  Call us to discuss: 1-800-232-0842.
• Below 2 and you tested in cold weather with the heat on—retest in 3 to 5 years. If you tested in warmer weather when heat is off, test again in cold weather when heat is on.

Radon Gas: the 2nd leading cause of lung cancer
Radon is a serious health risk. Natural levels of radon are high in Maine. Technology can usually reduce radon air levels to below 2 and easily reduce water levels to below 4,000—the safest levels. If you need to reduce radon levels in your home, be aware that contractors must be registered to reduce radon in water or air or both. See the list on back.
If radon is tested as part of buying or selling a house, a registered radon tester MUST be used.

Learn More. Request Radon Tip Sheets.
• Check this website: www.MaineRadiationControl.org
• Call for advice: 1-800-232-0842 • TTY: 800-606-0215