Healthy You: Quick FactsThe NATION'S HEALTHRadon: Don't overlook this household danger

t's invisible, tasteless and odorless. It's the second leading cause of lung cancer and can also cause heart ailments and stroke.

If you haven't guessed yet, we're talking about radon. In most cases, your greatest chance of being exposed to dangerous levels of radon is in the place you spend most of your time: your home. And you may not even know it's there.



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Quick facts on radon:

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that's in soil, rock and water. It can enter your home through the ground and build up to dangerous levels in the air you breathe.

2 Radon can enter any house that sits



on the ground. It doesn't matter if the home is new, old, drafty or sealed up tight. The gas can get trapped indoors and build up to dangerous levels.

You can test your home for radon yourself. Test kits can be purchased online or in hardware stores for as little as \$20. They are usually small charcoal canisters that you leave out for awhile to measure the air.



4 If your home tests positive for radon, don't wait to do something about it. Reach out to a qualified radon service provider. They can easily fix the problem.

5 The most common way to get rid of radon is a system that collects the gas from the ground underneath your home. A fan blows the gas through a pipe, sending it safely away from you and your family.

>> For more information, visit www.epa.gov/radon

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