

Radon

Where is Radon found?

Radon is a radioactive gas that comes from the natural decay of uranium found in nearly all soils. It usually moves up through the ground and into your home through cracks and holes in foundations. Breathing in high concentrations of radon may result in mutations in lung tissue which may lead to lung cancer. The best way to prevent radon exposure is to test your home and prevent it from ever entering your home. The EPA recommends mitigation for residence with radon concentrations of 4 pCi/L or greater.

Lead

Lead in Your Home

Lead has been called the “number one environmental threat to the health of children in the United States.” Humans are exposed to lead through:

- Air
- Drinking water
- Food
- Contaminated soil
- Deteriorating paint
- Dust

High levels of lead (80mg/dl blood) can cause convulsions, coma and even death. Lower levels can cause adverse health effects on the central nervous system, kidney and blood cells. In young children, exposure can be severe, including delays in physical and mental development, lower IQ levels, short attention spans and increased behavioral problems.

Combustible Gases

What Are the Signs?

Combustible gases may come from various appliances in your home like, gas stoves, dryers, water heaters and furnaces, but can also come from solvents and liquid chemicals. Symptoms vary depending upon the gas type, concentration and exposure levels, but may include headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, confusion, and fatigue. If a combustible gas leak or solvent is suspected, immediately stop what you are doing and go outside. Call your local gas company or professional for assistance.

Testing is capable of sensing combustible, non-combustible and toxic gases that include but are not limited to:

- Acetone
- Alcohol
- Ammonia
- Benzene
- Butane
- Ethylene oxide
- Gasoline
- Halon
- Hydrogen sulfide
- Industrial solvents
- Jet fuel
- Lacquer
- Thinners
- Methane
- Naphtha
- Natural gas
- Propane
- Refrigerants and
- Toluene

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Call the Environmental Protection Department's Tribal Air Program to schedule your home inspection

Phone: 951.755.5176

12700 Pumarra Road

Banning, CA 92220

Fax: 951.755.5299



Morongo Tribal Air Program

INDOOR AIR QUALITY HOME INSPECTIONS

FREE home inspection services for
Mold
Carbon Monoxide
Radon
Lead
VOC's and
Combustible Gases
to Morongo Residents



Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Environmental Protection
Department
Tribal Air Program



Mold

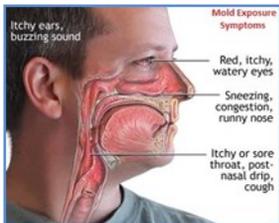
What is Mold?

Molds that are found in your home are a type of fungus. Mold and fungus are a natural part of our environment. Mold is needed to breakdown dead organic materials. Mold produces microscopic spores that float through the air and can be found everywhere, indoors and outdoors. However, mold only grows where moisture is present.

Health Concerns and Why You Should Test for Mold?

Normally, molds are not a concern to someone who is healthy. However some individuals, especially those who have existing health concerns, may be sensitive to mold exposure. Addressing a mold problem would help reduce the following symptoms:

- Allergic reactions
 - Headache
 - Sneezing
 - Running nose
 - Irritated eyes
 - Skin rash
- Flu-like symptoms
 - Fatigue
 - Nose bleed
 - Dizziness
 - Headaches
 - Vomiting
 - Respiratory dysfunction
- Asthma attacks
 - Breathing difficulties
- Infections in persons with weak immune system



Carbon Monoxide

Carbon Monoxide Sources

Carbon monoxide (CO) is formed by the incomplete combustion of materials containing carbon and can be produced by virtually anything that burns. CO is a common by-product of fuels that burn such as gasoline, diesel, propane, natural gas, kerosene, wood, coal charcoal, alcohol and others. Usually the by-products of combustion are safely vented outside, but if anything disrupts the ventilation process, CO levels can rise rapidly, exposing people to CO poisoning. Here are some possible CO sources:

- Leaky chimneys and furnaces
- Gasoline powered equipment
- Gas stoves or space heaters
- Generators
- Car exhaust
- Wood stoves
- Gas water heaters
- Fireplaces



Why Test for CO?

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless and toxic gas. Because it is impossible to see, taste or smell the toxic fumes, CO can kill you before you are aware it is in your home. At lower levels of exposure, CO causes mild effects that are often mistaken for the flu. The symptoms include

- Headaches
- Dizziness
- Disorientation
- Nausea
- Fatigue

The effects of CO exposure can vary greatly from person to person depending on age, overall health and concentration and length of exposure.

VOC's

What are VOCs

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are emitted as gases from certain solids or liquids. VOCs include a variety of chemicals, some of which may have short- and long-term adverse effects. Concentrations of many VOCs are consistently higher indoors (up to ten times higher) than outdoors. VOCs are emitted by a wide array of products numbering in the thousands. Examples include:

- Paints and lacquers
- Cleaning supplies
- Pesticides
- Glues
- Permanent markers
- Building materials and furnishings
- Office equipment and supplies



Organic chemicals are widely used as ingredients in household products. Fuels are made up of organic chemicals. All of these products can release organic compounds while you are using them and to some degree, when they are stored.

VOCs Health Effects

As with other pollutants, the extent and nature of the health effect will depend on many factors including level of exposure and length of time exposed. Below are some symptoms associated with exposure to VOCs:

- Eye, nose and throat irritation
- Headache
- Loss of coordination
- Nausea
- Allergic skin reaction
- Fatigue
- Dizziness