To Whom it May Concern,

This email is directed to Cook County Illinois schools and municipalities to ask you to help disseminate information to residents. Please share this information by forwarding this email, posting the attached flyer on your bulletin board and/or distributing it to your students/constituents. Thank you.

The Cook County Department of Environmental Control reminds you to be aware of the health risks of radon. Radon is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that comes from the radioactive decay of naturally occurring uranium in the soil. It can enter homes and buildings through small cracks in the foundation, sump pumps or soil in crawlspaces. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers and the second leading cause of lung cancer overall in the U.S. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency estimates as many as 1,160 Illinois citizens develop radon-related lung cancer each year and the Surgeon General estimates that radon may cause as many as 21,000 deaths in the U.S. annually. The Cook County Department of Environmental Control offers free information as well as radon test kits* for the low price of \$7.00 each (Please see the attached flyer to order your test kit). Further information is available at (708) 865-6177 or go to IEMA's radon page at http://www.illinois.gov/iema/NRS/Radon/Pages/default.aspx.

*Please note that these kits are recommended for residential use. For testing schools and commercial spaces, please consult a <u>measurement professional</u>; see the list of available measurement professionals here http://www.illinois.gov/iema/NRS/Radon/Pages/Commercial.aspx.

Sincerely,

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