



Portland Public Schools

Radon Testing Plan – September 1, 2019

In accordance with Oregon Revised Statute 332.345, Portland Public Schools has developed the following radon testing plan.

Methodology

- Portland Public Schools and its contractors will follow the scope and intent of Oregon Health Authority's [Testing for Elevated Radon in Oregon Schools](#) (link) version 1.0 – 2016 and EPA guidelines.
- Portland Public Schools has contracted with PBS Engineering and Environmental Inc. of Portland, OR for radon level testing, contract number RS- 62476. Additional radon testing resources will be utilized as needed.
- Competitive bidding is used to contract for the design and construction of radon mitigation systems.

Recent History of radon testing

- Initial short-term radon testing began during the 2015-2016 school year, resumed during the 2016-2017 school year, and concluded in the spring of 2017. Testing occurred in the recommended testing period described as “winter heating months”, typically October through March.
- Repeat short-term testing was completed for rooms that measured greater than 8 pCi/L, and as needed when testing designs of mitigation systems.
- Long-term testing was completed during the 2016-2017 winter heating months for rooms that measured between 4 pCi/L-8 pCi/L after initial short-term tests.
- Initial short-term radon testing was completed by the spring of 2017, in accordance with the statutory requirement to be completed on or before January 1, 2021.

2019-2020 Radon Testing Plan

- Most testing is now part of **Ongoing Testing**.
- Any new initial short-term testing will be conducted in the 2019-2020 winter heating season at locations that recently came into service, locations that have recently completed significant construction projects that disturbed the existing soil conditions or HVAC systems, and non-school properties.

Ongoing Radon Testing Plan



Portland Public Schools Radon Testing Plan – September 1, 2019

- Initial short-term radon testing will be repeated as required every 10 years for locations that measured less than 4 pCi/L after short or long-term testing.
- Initial short-term radon testing will be repeated as recommended by OHA every five years for locations in which a radon mitigation system is installed.

Results and Communication

- Schools are individually notified when ongoing testing will occur, and afterwards with results.
- Radon testing results are available on the radon page of the PPS Healthy and Safe Schools web page, and provided to the School Board and the Oregon Health Authority. Results will include measurements and reference the level of radon at which the United States Environmental Protection Agency recommends schools take action to reduce indoor radon. [link to radon page](#)

Recordkeeping

- PPS Risk Management has begun using the radon module available in the Verdant Web Technologies, Environmental Health and Safety software. Over the 2018-2019 school year, radon test results and records of mitigation systems will be uploaded into this database module.

Mitigation

- To date, approximately 24 permanent radon mitigation systems have been installed across the District with 2017 Health and Safety Bond money. Efforts will continue to achieve radon mitigation by the end of each winter heating season when determined by testing results.
- The status of completed mitigation projects, and projects underway, is described and updated on the radon page of the PPS Healthy and Safe Schools web page. [link to radon page](#)

Funding

- Passage of the May 2017 bond secured \$1.1 million for radon mitigation.

Plan submission



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- Plans were required to be submitted to the Oregon Health Authority in 2016. PPS has elected to also provide annual plan updates and post on the radon page of the PPS Healthy and Safe School webpage.

For questions, please contact
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