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## PRESS RELEASE

## RADON TEST KITS NOW AVAILABLE FOR BRIDGEWATER, GREEN BROOK, WARREN, AND WATCHUNG RESIDENTS.

The Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission is pleased to announce limited availability of radon test kits provided through our partnership with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Radon is a colorless, odorless gas that can build up in homes and pose serious health risks when left undetected and unmitigated. Radon gas occurs naturally when uranium and radium break down in the soil and in rock formations. Radon gas moves up through the soil and finds its way into homes through cracks in the foundation and openings around pumps, pipes, and drains. Radon occurs in higher concentrations in certain areas of the state, including Somerset County.

Prolonged exposure to high levels of radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers and the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Testing is the only way to determine if your home has high radon levels. In efforts to raise awareness about the importance of radon testing and encourage proactive measures, we are offering complimentary radon test kits to residents in Bridgewater, Green Brook, Warren, and Watchung. If a radon test indicates a radon problem, radon mitigation systems can be installed at a cost similar to other home repairs, reducing exposures and the risk of lung cancer.

The kits are easy to use and instructions for conducting the test are included. Residents are asked to call us at 732-968-5151 for the current availability of the radon test kits. To learn more about radon, visit <u>www.epa.gov/radon.</u>

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