

November, 2024

# AI's Corner



**The Truth  
Is Out  
There....**

**Greetings and  
Salutations Fellow  
Snowmobiling  
Enthusiasts**

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**PREPARE TO HAVE YOUR  
MIND EXPANDED...**



## **The First Wealth is Health: RADON**

**Radon is not the monster that tries to kill Godzilla all of the time; It's the monster that's trying to kill YOU. I bet that just about everyone knows someone who lived in central MN, that got lung cancer, and never smoked a day in their life. Statistically, It was probably radon that caused the cancer. What is radon? Radon is a colorless, odorless gas, that is a byproduct of the decay of uranium. Uranium is present in the soil and REALLY present in.....wait for it.....granite. Granite contains an above average amount of radon, which makes central MN, and a swath heading southwest down to GRANITE Falls, ground zero for lung cancer cases.**

**Way back at some point, the Earth was molten. The granite was lighter than the surrounding rock and floated to the top. But Al, granite is heavy! Yes it is, but it's lighter than the basalt that it floated up through. If you want to see some real basalt, without a lot of digging, head up I35 north towards Duluth. There, a few miles south of town, in between the northbound and southbound lanes of I35, is a swath of exposed basalt. It's still bare after thousands of years because it's so incredibly dense and hard, even lichens have met their match. On a more positive note, we have about 100 miles of basalt under our feet, keeping earthquakes to a minimum. The farther north you go, the thicker the basalt gets. You won't ever see any major earthquakes up in Ontario unless the earth goes through another pole shift, which probably won't be in our lifetime.**

**Radon can be extremely high in one home, and barely detectable in the home right next door. It's quite unpredictable who's going to have how much. We, who live in Benton County (unless you're in the far east of the county) have it better than our brothers in Mille Lacs county. Theirs is some of the highest readings in the state.**

**What's the answer, and can radon be managed? First, you need to buy yourself some radon test kits, one for each room in your basement. They can vary in price by quite a bit. Make sure you know the whole cost of each kit. Some sound super cheap, but when you send it in, you have additional fees. Personally, I would look for kits, where all the costs are up front, and mailing it back in for testing is included in the price, at least that way you'll know. You can also buy a real time electronic radon detector for around \$100 or so, and just move it room to room and test it that way. If you find that you have unsafe levels of radon in your home, stop breathing immediately! Nah, just kidding, but take action.**

**You have 3 options. 1) Move 2) Ignore it, and hope something kills you first before the lung cancer gets ya. 3) Treat the home for radon. You will need a professional HVAC company to come in and install an HRV (Heat Recovery Ventilator). This is a box about 12 cubic feet in size, and will be located in your utility room hanging up towards the ceiling, out of the way. Insulated hoses will be attached to it, and this unit contains filters and a fan. That fan is strong enough to suck out the bad air, retain most of the heat from your home, and bring in fresh air that will be slightly heated. The radon goes bye-bye, and you'll live to a ripe old age. (at least if you don't, it won't be the radon taking you out.) This is like smoking, you go along 30 years and then one day, you get a cough. Don't smoke. Test for radon.**