



# RADON IN GEORGIA

## Georgia Radon Education Program (GREP) Newsletter and Outreach Report

*April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014*

*GREP is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Office of Planning and Environmental Management*

### Radon Outreach with Children

This past April, the Radon Education Program was invited to participate in the Barrow Elementary Green Fest in Athens, Georgia. This is an event that our program has participated with in the past, and it is a great way to connect to children and their parents to talk to them about radon.

Green Fest is run mainly by the students of the school under supervision of their teachers. The students we interacted with helped direct us to our area, helped set up our display, and even helped by bringing

their friends over to look at our information. We had the spinning wheel with us, which was a great success with the children. Each child was allowed to spin the wheel once, and chose prizes if they answered their question correctly. The majority of the children we talked with came to our display with their parents, so we were able to interact with and answer any questions their parents had. However, the dialogue we aimed for was to teach the children about radon and to get them to ask their parents to test.

A few weeks after the Green Fest event we had another program with schools. Radon Educators taught multiple classes to students at Youth Middle School. Combining all the classes taught, around 200 students and teachers were reached. These students were attentive, interested in how radon affected them (and their pets), and many seemed encouraged to talk to their parents about testing.

These events were a great reminder that children need to learn about radon just as much as adults do because they can talk to their parents, teachers, and other adults they interact with about testing their homes for radon.



*Children spinning the wheel to answer questions about Radon at Science Night*

# GEORGIA RADON EDUCATORS AT WORK

## Region 4 EPA Meeting

In May, the Radon Education Program was represented at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 annual meeting in Jacksonville, Florida. Adriane Wood (Planning Outreach Coordinator), Pamela Turner (Director), Becky Chenhall (Radon Educator), and Gabrielle Walters (Radon Educator) were all in attendance. The purpose of this meeting was to update other states on programs and tactics that are being used in radon awareness and promotion, update everyone on the state of the radon grants, and to meet with radon stakeholders throughout the region. This annual meeting led to many new ideas for programs and materials for the state of Georgia.

## Georgia Municipal Association Conference

In June, Radon Educator Becky Chenhall and Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Planning Outreach Coordinator Adriane Wood attended the annual Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) conference in Savannah, Georgia. The conference attracted more than 1,500 people from municipalities across the state. The purpose of the conference is to provide a wide range of relevant training for the participants, directly applicable to their community's needs and vital services. The Radon Education Program was 1 of over 100 exhibitors presenting at the conference.

Attendees were provided with information on the impact of radon on the health of Georgia residents. Adriane and Becky made contact with over 220 individuals who stopped by the exhibit, many of whom had never heard of or had limited information about radon. Besides education, the principle objective was to encourage attendees to test their homes. A total of 52 complimentary kits were distributed to individuals representing 36 counties.

To add interest and attract participants to the exhibit, the spinning wheel was used. Participants were awarded for correctly answering a question about radon with a prize. These items are very useful to serve as a reminder when participants return home.

Because the conference attracted municipal leaders throughout the state who are likely to share the importance of learning about radon and testing homes in their counties, the exhibit outreach was deemed a success.



*Radon Educator Becky Chenhall (left) and DCA Planning Outreach Coordinator Adriane Wood (right) at GMA Conference.*

# RADON OUTREACH

## Program Contacts & Media Impressions April through June 2014

PROGRAM/CONTACTS	Hall/Clarke	Walton	Totals
<b>PROGRAMS-MEETINGS</b>	4	14	18
Participants	150	652	802
Materials Distributed	400	1,050	1,450
<b>EXHIBIT-EVENTS</b>	1	6	7
Participants	30	2,060	2,090
Materials Distributed	30	800	830
<b>OTHER CONTACTS</b>	<b>Hall/Clarke</b>	<b>Walton</b>	<b>Totals</b>
<b>TOTAL CONTACTS</b>	98	100	198
Medical Professionals	9	3	12
Home Builders		1	1
Realtors	4	1	5
Consumer Contacts	85	95	180
<b>KIT USAGE DATA</b>	<b>Hall/Clarke</b>	<b>Walton</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Kits Distributed	56	160	216
Results Received	49	86	135
≥ 4 pCi/L	15	15	30
< 4 pCi/L	30	60	90
Incomplete	4	11	15
% ≥ pCi/L	31.00%	20%	25%
Highest Level	8.2 pCi/L	23.2 pCi/L	23.2 pCi/L
<b>MITIGATION DATA</b>	<b>Hall/Clarke</b>	<b>Walton</b>	<b>Totals</b>
RRNC <sup>2</sup>			
Mitigations <sup>3</sup>			
Mitigation Referrals	25	15	40
<b>MEDIA IMPRESSIONS</b>	<b>Hall/Clarke</b>	<b>Walton</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Radio			
Listeners			
Television		2	2
Viewers		32,000	32,000
Newspaper		1	1
Circulation		32,000	32,000
Newsletters			
Distribution			
Local Web Hits <sup>4</sup>	894		894
GA SIRG Web Hits <sup>5</sup>		1,190	
<b>TOTAL IMPRESSIONS</b>	1737	68,931	71,873

<sup>1</sup>Other includes radon education/results of former educators & county FACS/4-H Agents.

<sup>2</sup>Reported quarterly by Southface

<sup>3</sup>Mitigation & RRNCs completed by Certified Mitigators are reported annually

<sup>4</sup>Began tracking January 1, 2010

<sup>5</sup>Web hits for www.ugaradon.org are shared equally among the radon educators

# RADON OUTREACH

## Program Contacts & Media Impressions April 2003 through June 2014

<u>PROGRAM CONTACTS</u>	Hall	DeKalb	Gwinnett	Elbert	Walton	Southface	Other <sup>1</sup>	Totals
<b>Programs / Meetings</b>	277	187	266	193	612	1,084	27	2,646
<b>Participants</b>	8,736	4,335	15,112	3,866	22,915	17,946	2,099	75,009
<b>Materials Distributed</b>	15,228	11,441	15,887	6,595	46,107	9,184	75	104,517
<b>Exhibits or Events<sup>1</sup></b>	132	86	175	63	168	67	31	722
<b>Participants</b>	42,915	6,558	146,287	11,978	158,273	13,798	2,996	382,805
<b>Materials Distributed</b>	48,935	8,947	50,145	8,057	25,810	1,296	1,346	144,536
<b>OTHER CONTACTS</b>	Hall	DeKalb	Gwinnett	Elbert	Walton	Southface	Other	Totals
<b>Total Direct Contacts</b>	<b>4,524</b>	<b>1,385</b>	<b>1,216</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>5,235</b>	<b>12,268</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>25,155</b>
<b>Medical professionals</b>	468	51	242	56	843	0	24	1,684
<b>Home builders</b>	344	29	43	45	378	10,082	0	10,921
<b>Realtors</b>	459	93	85	25	205	836	28	1,731
<b>Consumer Contacts</b>	3,253	1,212	846	349	3,809	1,350	0	10,819
<b>KIT USAGE DATA</b>	Hall	DeKalb	Gwinnett	Elbert	Walton	Southface	Other	Totals
<b>Kits Distributed</b>	<b>8,069</b>	<b>4,271</b>	<b>7,853</b>	<b>2,893</b>	<b>11,935</b>	<b>5,192</b>	<b>4,600</b>	<b>44,813</b>
<b>Test Results Received</b>	2,848	1,613	2,434	1,354	6,138	1,060	849	16,296
<b>Highest Level</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>85.8</b>	<b>77.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>85.8</b>
<b>MITIGATION DATA</b>	Hall	DeKalb	Gwinnett	Elbert	Walton	Southface	Other	Totals
<b>Mitigation Referrals</b>	984	249	361	91	721	412	0	2,818
<b>Mitigations<sup>2</sup></b>	2,970							
<b>RRNC<sup>3</sup></b>	1,480							
<b>MEDIA IMPRESSIONS</b>	Hall	DeKalb	Gwinnett	Elbert	Walton	Southface	Other	Totals
<b>Radio Outreach</b>	66	11	8	4,278	137	1	2	4,503
<b>Listening Audience</b>	4,847,000	3,670,000	10,000	4,020,000	2,693,000	2,000	377,000	15,619,000
<b>TV Outreach</b>	139	75	713	8	271	2	437	1,645
<b>Viewing Audience</b>	25,020,100	12,733,000	73,981,740	15,080	27,778,000	1,328,000	8,385,000	149,240,920
<b>Newspaper Outreach</b>	45	4	19	13	97	0	6	184
<b>Circulation</b>	1,325,000	3,223,000	1,304,817	154,800	3,420,449	0	69,500	9,497,566
<b>Newsletter Outreach</b>	50	2	14	17	54	9	16	162
<b>Distribution</b>	29,300	249	16,746	9,215	1,638,030	903,048	6,054	2,602,642
<b>Local Web Hits<sup>5</sup></b>	894	1,044	20,600	0	12,000	0	0	34,538
<b>State Web Hits<sup>6</sup></b>	54,896					51,296	0	106,192
<b>TOTAL IMPRESSIONS</b>	<b>31,233,273</b>	<b>19,638,272</b>	<b>75,344,882</b>	<b>4,210,074</b>	<b>35,552,458</b>	<b>2,284,344</b>	<b>8,837,554</b>	<b>177,100,858</b>

<sup>1</sup>Other includes radon education/results of former radon educators and county FACS/4-H Agents.

<sup>2</sup>Reported quarterly by Southface only.

<sup>3</sup>Certified GA mitigators reported their mitigations & RRNCs annually through 2012.

<sup>4</sup>Began tracking Jan. 1, 2010

<sup>5</sup>UGA Radon Program web hits are shared equally among the 5 radon educators

# RADON RESOURCES & CONTACTS

## Georgia Indoor Radon Grant Administration

Jim Frederick, Office Director

[jim.frederick@dca.ga.gov](mailto:jim.frederick@dca.ga.gov)

Georgia Department of Community Affairs— Office of Planning and Environmental Management

60 Executive Park South NE, Atlanta, GA 30329

404-679-3105

Adriane Wood, Grant Coordinator

[adriane.wood@dca.ga.gov](mailto:adriane.wood@dca.ga.gov)

Georgia Department of Community Affairs—Office of Planning and Environmental Management

479 Cherry Street, Macon, GA. 31201

478-319-0433

## Radon Hotline Numbers

### National Hotlines

**Kansas State University / EPA**

1-800-SOS-RADON (1-800-767-7236)

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday

**National Hispanic Indoor Air Quality**

1-800-725-8312

**The Radon Fix It Line:** (National Safety Program)

1-800-644-6999

**Get live help for your radon questions**

1-800-55RADON (557-2366)\*

**Radon Fix-It Hotline**—General information on reducing radon levels

1-800-644-6999\*

**Safe Drinking Water Hotline**

1-800-426-4791

*\* Operated by Kansas State University in partnership with EPA*

*The Georgia Radon Education Program is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Office of Planning and Environmental Management, in partnership with the University of Georgia College of Family & Consumer Sciences Cooperative Extension.*

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<https://www.facebook.com/ugaradon?fref=ts>

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