

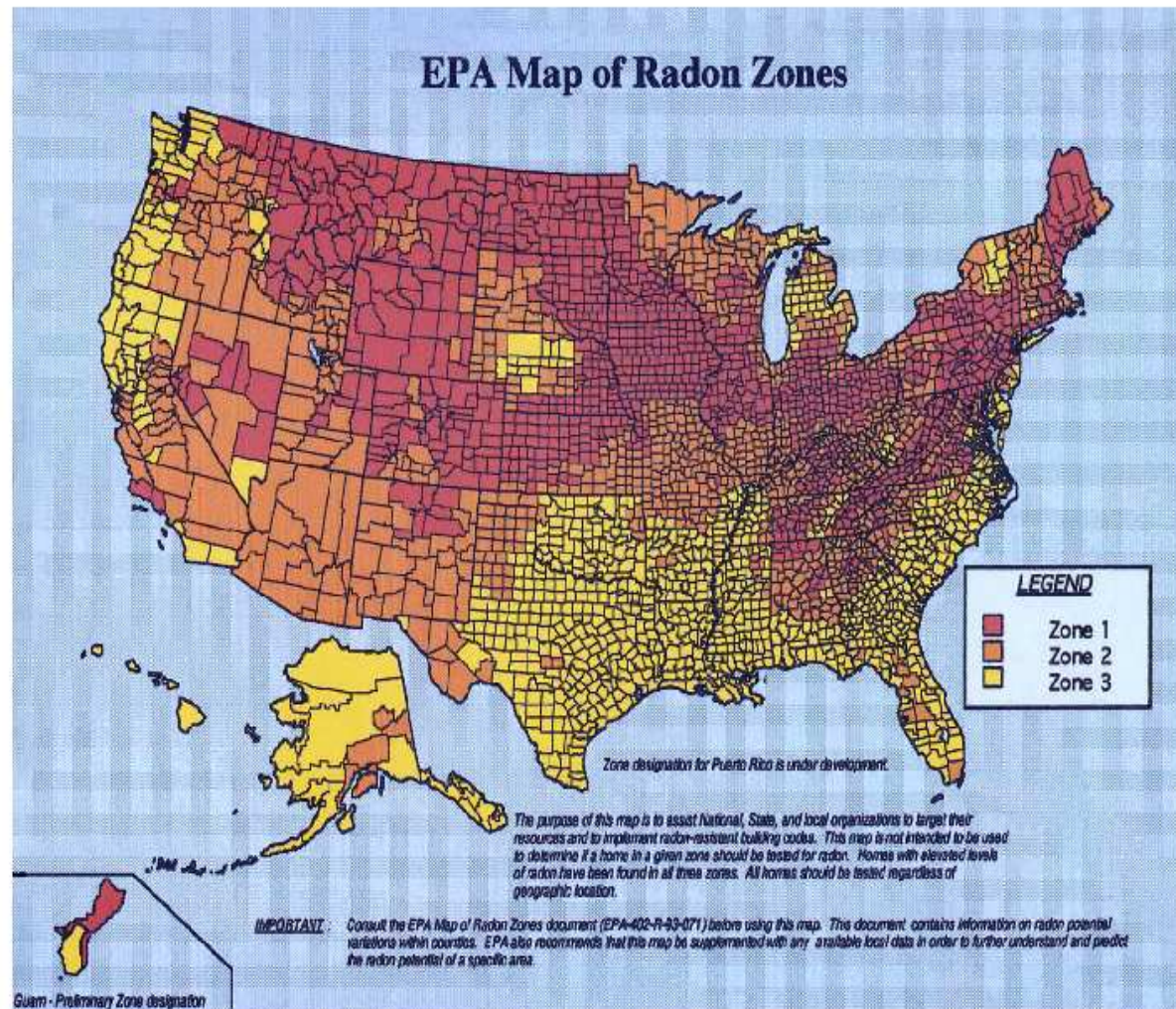
How the U.S. Developed a National Radon Action Plan: Lesson Learned and Ideas to Consider

State and NGO Activities

Ruth E. McBurney, CHP

Executive Director

Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors





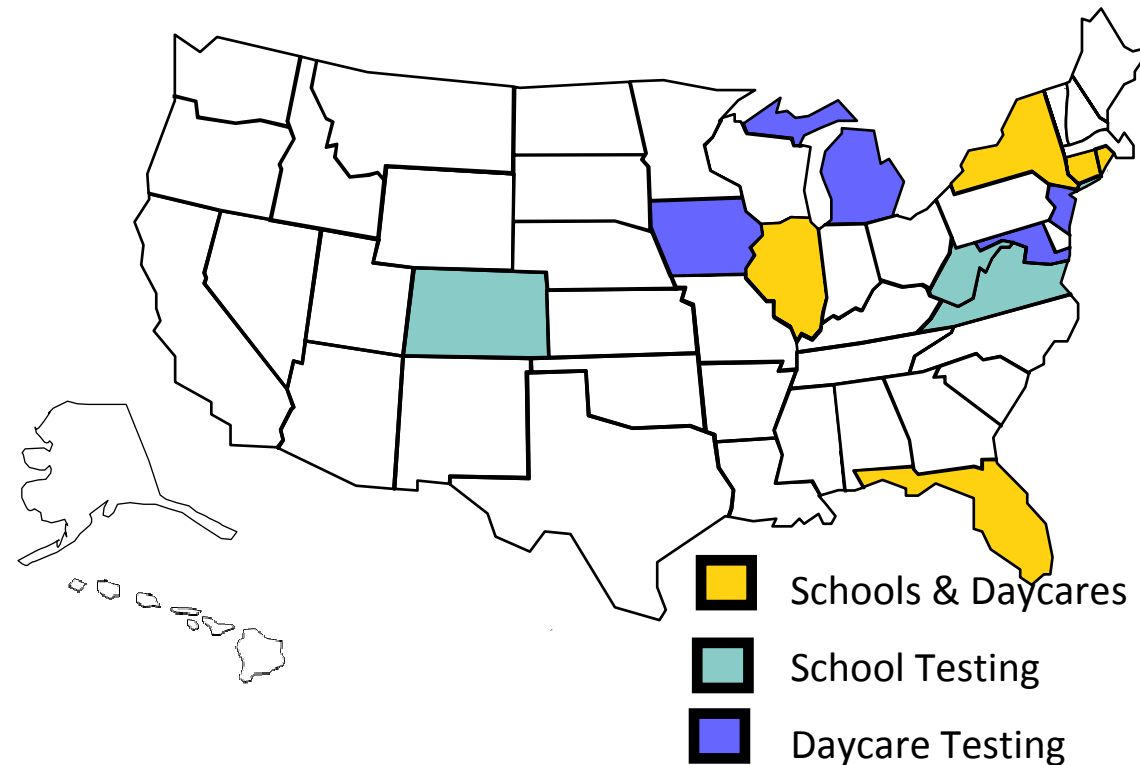
Radon Reduction Programs in State Governments

- Most laws and regulations regarding radon are the responsibility of individual states.
- Degree and type of state laws and regulations vary from state to state.
- Several states license or certify radon services, including but not limited to:
 - Radon testing;
 - Analysis of radon detection devices;
 - Consultation; and
 - Radon mitigation



School and Day Care Testing

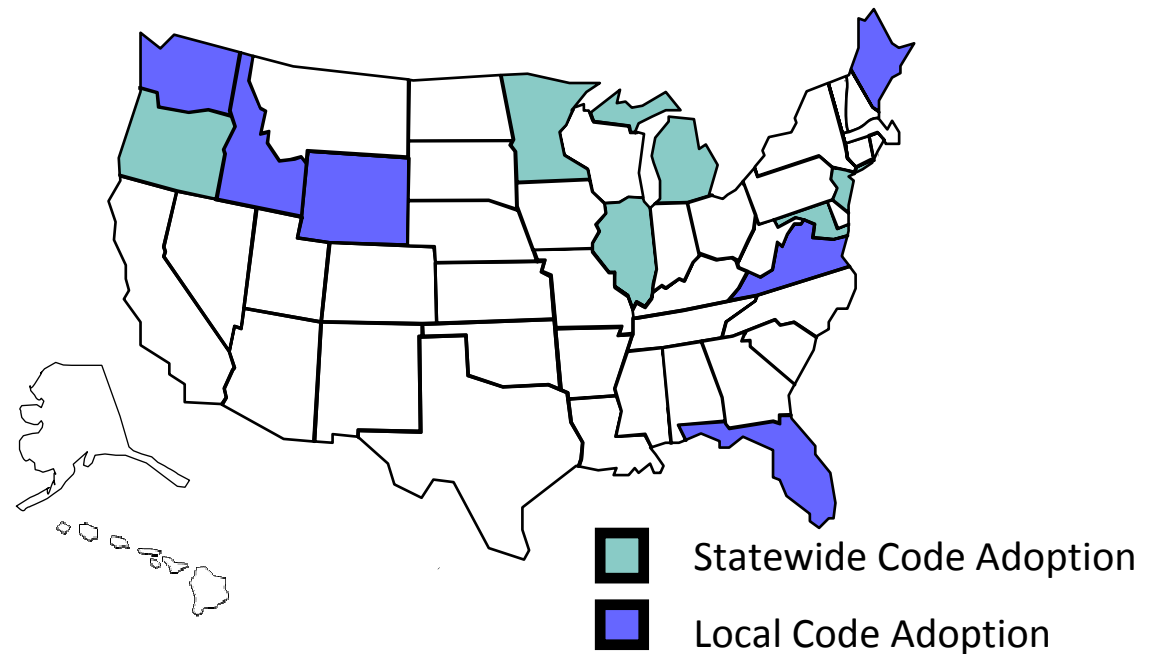
- Provides an opportunity to encourage home testing
- Complicated filtration systems tend to create isolated areas and not whole building failures





Radon Resistant Construction

- States with RRNC laws can demonstrate an overall radiation exposure risk reduction
- Generally states build more homes than they mitigate annually





Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors

- A national professional organization whose primary membership is made up of state radiation control personnel
- Primary aim is to “promote consistency in addressing and resolving radiation protection issues”



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors Activities

For consistency among states, CRCPD:

- Develops Suggested State Regulations for Control of Radiation, including a specific section on Radon
- Provides consistent guidance and procedures to be shared by states
- Holds an Annual Radon Training Conference and associated workshops



CRCPD: Other Activities

- Assistance to EPA in sponsorship of regional stakeholder meetings
- Participation in Radon Leaders Saving Lives
- Participation in Radon Allies for development of a National Radon Action Plan



Radon Allies

Engage nonprofit and industry allies to lead a strategic effort to amplify, leverage and build upon federal commitments in the Federal Radon Action Plan (FRAP) to achieve greater public health impact.

- Recognize FRAP accomplishments.
- Identify ways allies can expand on federal actions.
- Identify additional actions federal and ally stakeholders can take together.
- Identify actions ally stakeholders will take on their own.



Aim of Radon Summit of Allies

- To convene the best minds in radon risk reduction, public health, healthy housing and green building programs, and many others, to generate solutions, identify our strengths, and find opportunities to align our work.
- Build on the momentum of the federal summit and shape our national strategy for radon risk reduction and join in the development of a national action plan.
- Working toward a common goal, this diverse group of leaders will identify collaborative strategies and commit to immediate and actionable steps to prevent lung cancer deaths from radon.



Current Allies Categories of NGO's

- Public Health/Environmental Organizations
 - Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
 - CRCPD
- Cancer Organizations (e.g.: American Lung Assoc.)
- Medical Community
- Healthy Homes/Housing Groups
- Real Estate Organizations
- Scientific/Technical Societies
(e.g.: Amer. Assoc. of Radon Scientists and Technologists)
- National Conference of State Legislatures/other policy related groups



Current Allies Activities toward Development of a National Radon Action Plan

www.crcpd.org/Radon.aspx

- Identifying key market drivers for radon that need to be put into place or enhanced
- Developing collaborative efforts, e.g., state cancer control plans with radon programs
- Identifying additional NGO's that should be involved
- Tracking successes of Federal Action Plan and adding NGO strategies
- Ranking the effectiveness of a list of strategies and approaches for improving national radon results
 - For specific building types (single family, multi-family)
 - For specific populations (low income, market-based)



Key Lessons that May Apply in Other Countries' Radon Control Efforts

- Engaging high-level political officials to launch the campaign and assert the long range goals
- Focusing the action plan on specific, exposure-reduction actions whenever possible
- Maintaining a “scorecard” through which the public and advocacy groups can check on progress
- Ensuring interested NGOs can participate and contribute to the effort
- Employing state-of-the-art decision-making processes to determine joint federal/NGO strategies