Radon Outreach Efforts

LPHA Update Call 12/2/25

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Missouri Lung Cancer Coalition

We are a statewide coalition of healthcare professionals and other key stakeholders dedicated to preventing lung cancer and improving early detection of lung cancer. ***Our vision is to unify efforts to prevent and defeat lung cancer in Missouri.***

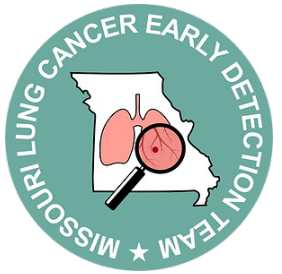
Our Mission

The Missouri Lung Cancer Coalition is dedicated to implementing programs and driving policies that support statewide collaboration for lung cancer education, prevention, and early detection. We are committed to action and reaching the underserved populations.

Current Work Teams

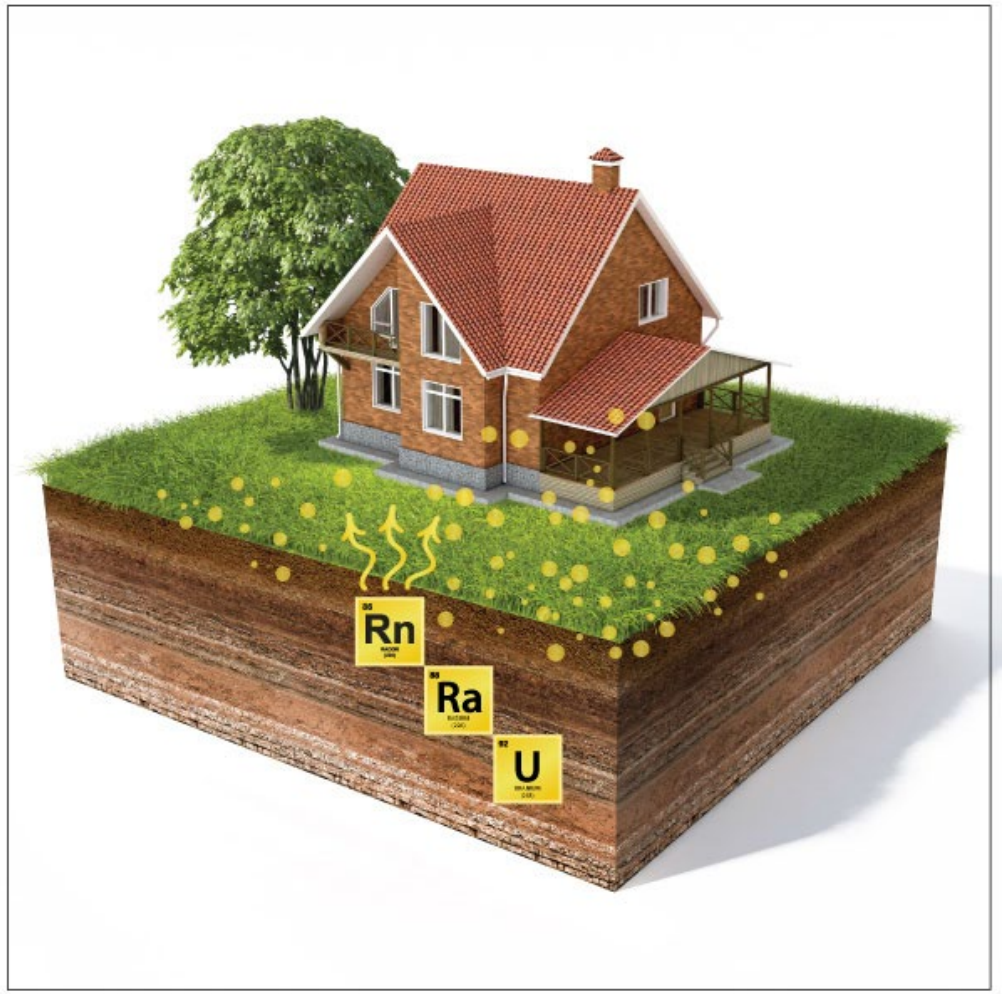
- Promote awareness of environmental risk factors (radon and others) for the public, along with resources to address them. Support Lung Cancer Awareness Month and National Radon Action Month efforts.
- Provide radon educational links and resources for the general public.
- Coordinate a radon advocacy ask by researching and building on current or past bills, creating a model policy as needed.

- Improve awareness of and access to evidence-based prevention and tobacco cessation services, particularly among high-risk, underserved, and rural populations.
- Increase access to evidence-based tobacco treatment training/certifications for providers and staff who provide primary care for high-risk patients in underserved and rural communities.
- Promote awareness and engage healthcare professionals in the adoption of evidence-based initiatives that increase lung cancer screening and tobacco treatment.



- Identify and develop best practices for scalable
- screening models that also overcome barriers to the delivery of high-quality lung cancer screening. Implement listening sessions on key barriers.
- Build awareness about lung cancer screening and its benefits for the general public.
- Work to ensure the integration of shared decision-making and evidence-based tobacco cessation interventions in lung cancer control efforts.

What is Radon?



Radon is a naturally occurring gas that is the byproduct of the radioactive decay of uranium found in rocks and soils throughout the world.

As it escapes from the ground, it is emitted into the air.

It enters new and old buildings through cracks and openings in floors and walls and can accumulate to dangerously high levels.

An individual's probability or risk of lung cancer is based on how high the level of radon to which they are exposed and the duration of the exposure.

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What is Radon?

Radon is a radioactive Class-A carcinogen meaning there is enough data to conclude that it can cause cancer.

Radon is colorless, tasteless, and odorless.

When inhaled, radon particles become trapped in your lungs.

Over time, the particles breakdown and damage the lung tissue and alter the DNA of the cells.

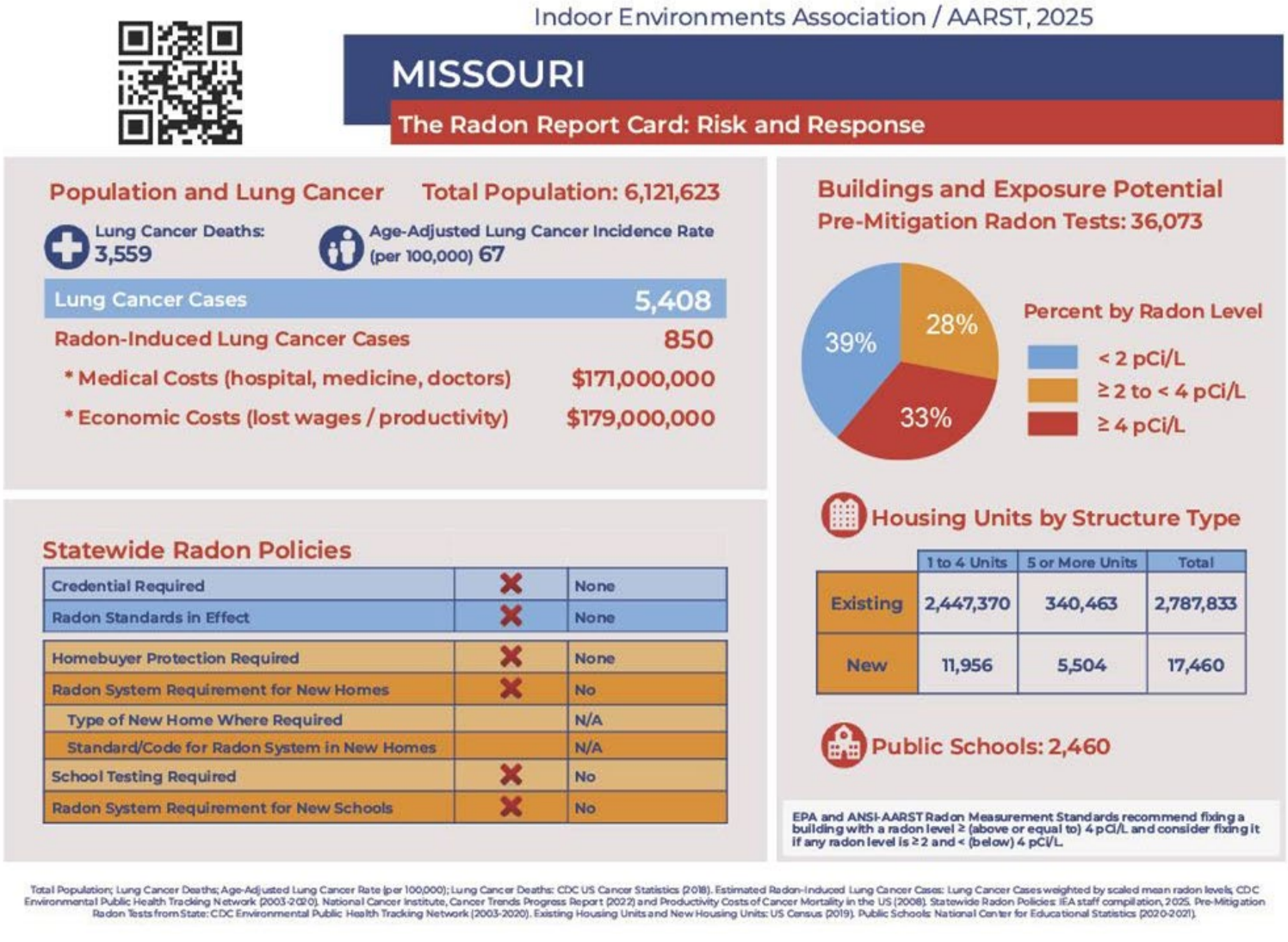
Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in people without a smoking history and the second leading cause of lung cancer overall.

Lung Cancer Statistics - National

- Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. and Missouri, claiming nearly as many lives every year as breast, prostate, and pancreatic cancers combined.[1]
- In 2025, it was estimated that in the U.S. there would be 226,650 new cases diagnosed and 124,730 people would die from lung cancer.[1]
- Overall, the chance that a man will develop lung cancer in his lifetime is about 1 in 16; for a woman, the risk is about 1 in 17. [2]
- Only 1 in 4 lung cancer cases are diagnosed at an early stage when it is most treatable. The 5-year relative survival rate for localized lung cancer is 63.7%; however, over half of new cases are diagnosed when the cancer is distant (metastasized) and the 5- year survival is just 8.9%.[1] This survival rate also varies based on the type of lung cancer diagnosed.

[1] NCI SEER Cancer Stats; [2] American Cancer Society; [3] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Missouri Radon Report Card



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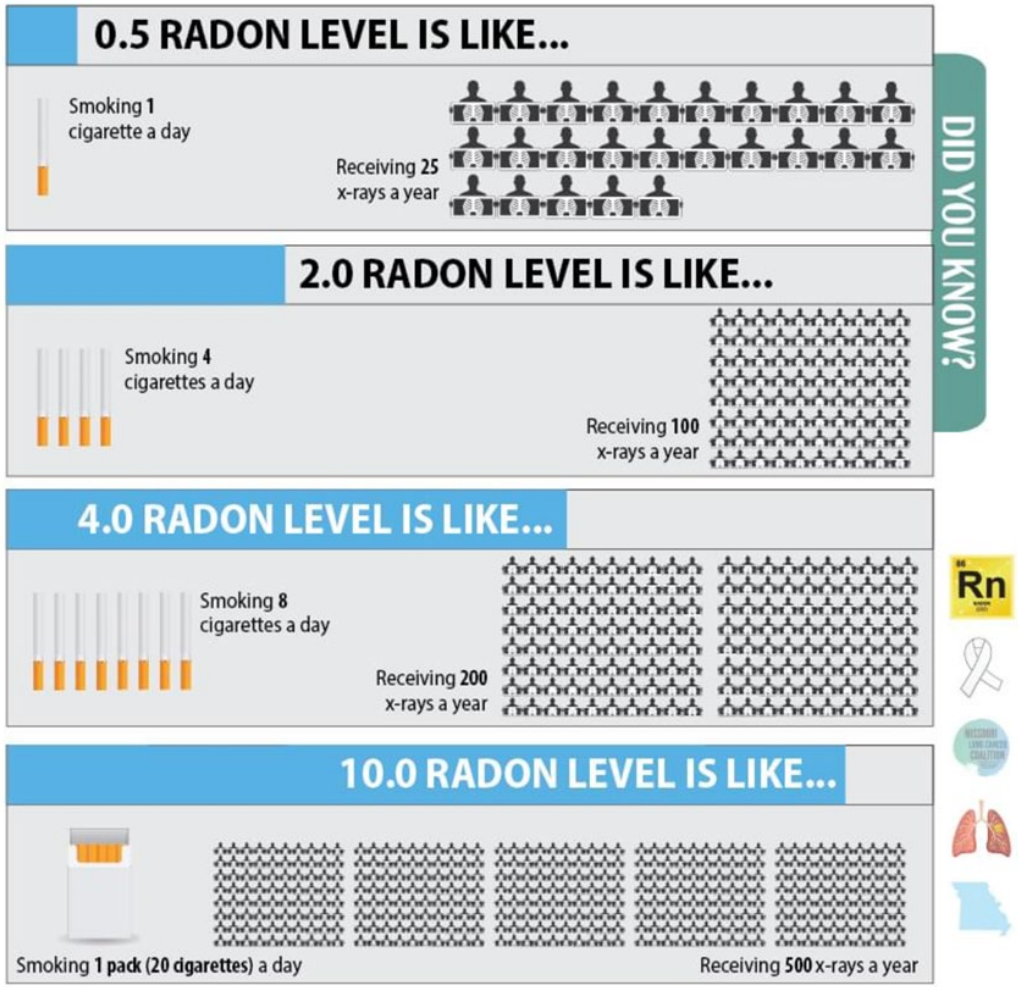
Radon & Lung Cancer



- A radon level of 4.0 pCi/L (the EPA recommended mitigation level) is comparable to smoking 8 cigarettes a day or receiving 100x-rays / year.
- A radon level of 10.0 pCi/L is comparable to smoking a pack of cigarettes a day or receiving 500 x-rays per year.
- **Radon exposure coupled with smoking increases the risk of developing lung cancer tenfold.**
- A radon level of 474 pCi/L was recorded in Missouri, which is equivalent to smoking over 40 packs of cigarettes per day.

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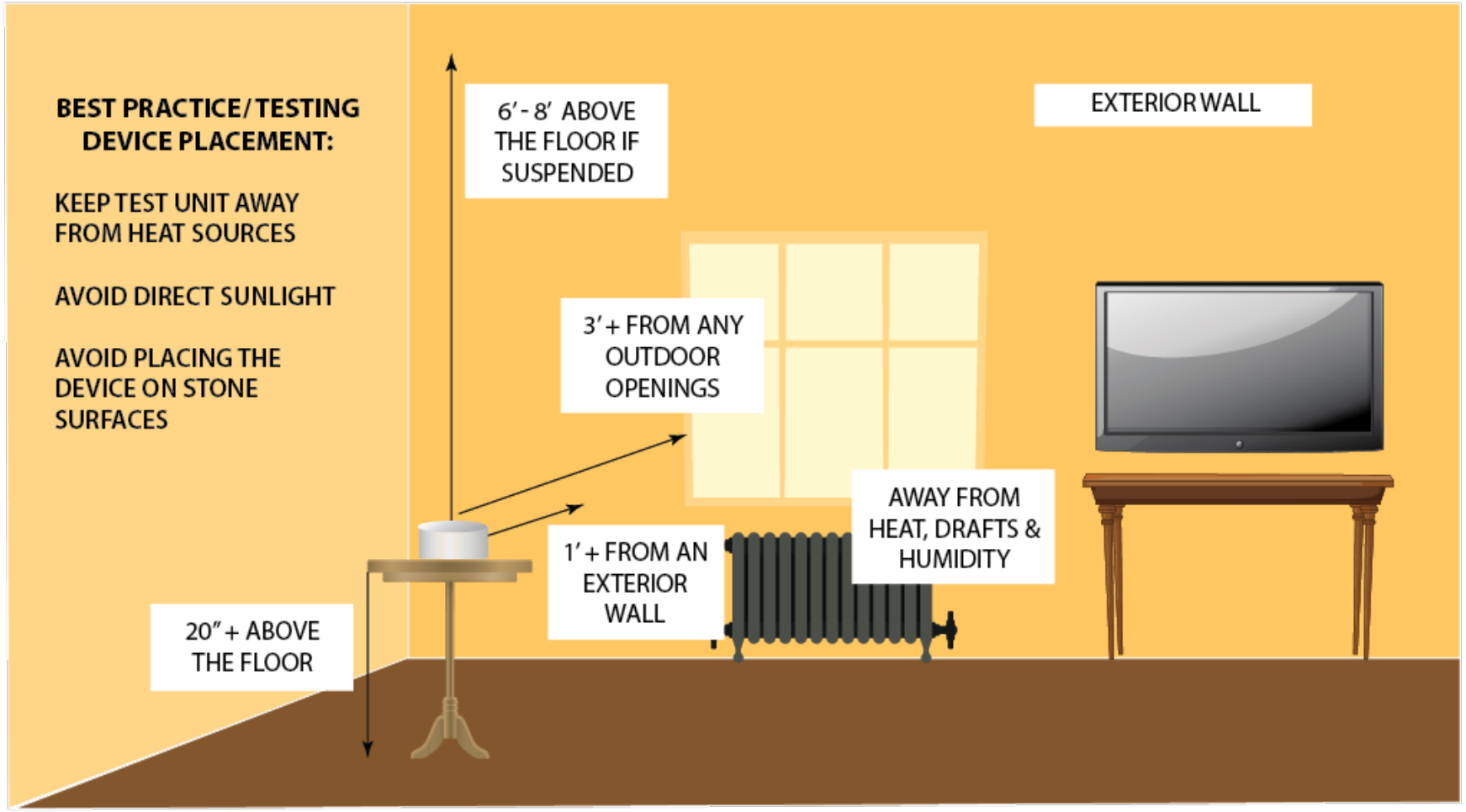
Radon Testing

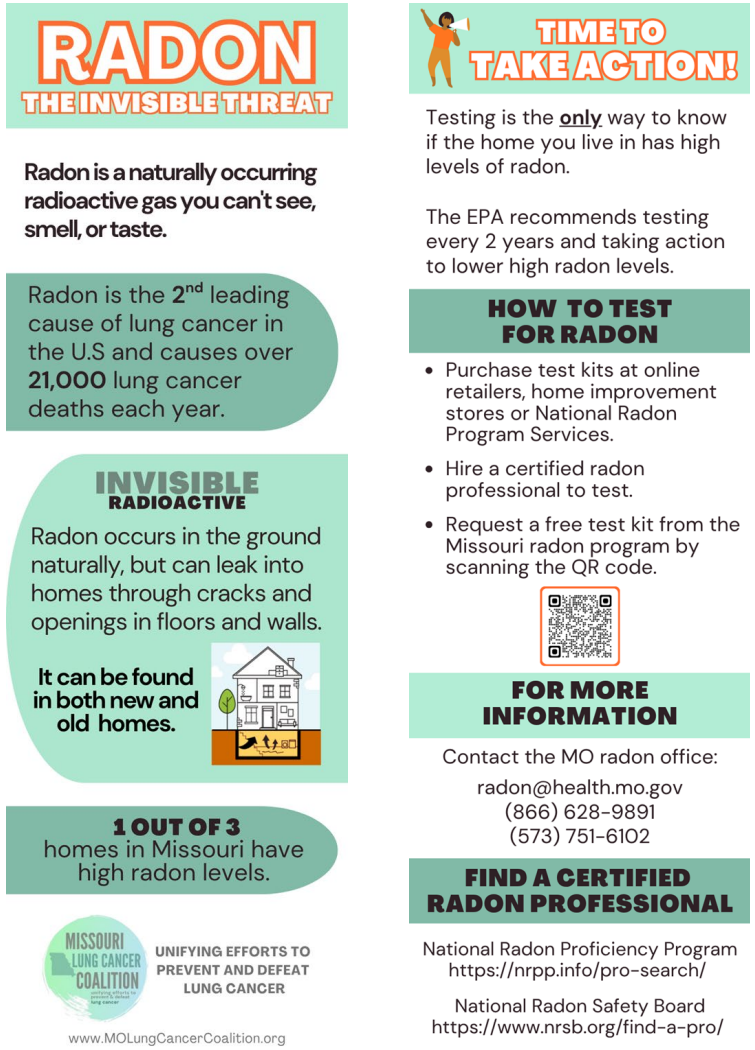


Testing Types

- Passive vs. Active
- Short-term vs. Long-term

Know where and how to test.

Radon Bookmark Campaign

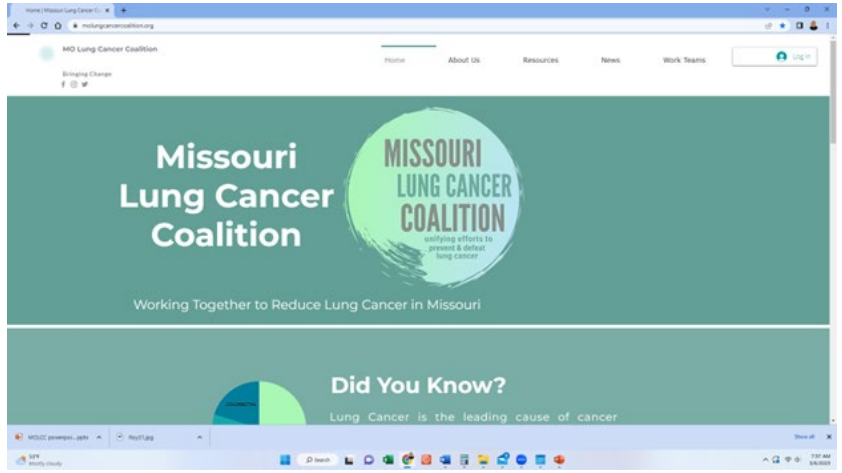


- This the 5th year for the bookmark/webinar campaign.
- Joint effort of the Missouri Lung Cancer Coalition and these key partners:
  - The American Lung Association
  - MU Health Care
  - University of Missouri Extension
- This year we are distributing 40,000 bookmarks and have added many locations from previous years.
- They are being distributed to various partners including 420 Missouri libraries.
- Plans are to make them available for free beginning January 2026 during National Radon Action Month (NRAM).

Radon Educational Webinar

- Webinar is held each January and features radon experts and lung cancer survivors who have been impacted by radon
  - Program features a basic overview of radon (what it is, how to test, how to treat) and information on how to access free test kits
- Hosted by St. Louis County Library and Missouri Lung Cancer Coalition and open to anyone in Missouri
- Recorded and available through St. Louis County Library's YouTube page following the live webinar

How to Find/Support Us



- **Website**
  MOLungCancerCoalition.org
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  https://www.linkedin.com/company/missouri-lung-cancer-coalition/