

**County of Tioga
EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS: Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer deaths among non-smokers in America and claims the lives of about 21,000 Americans each year; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County has been identified as one of five counties in New York State with the highest levels of radon. The Towns of Candor, Barton, Newark Valley, Nichols, and Berkshire have the highest rates within the county; and

WHEREAS: You can't see, smell or taste radon, but it could be present at a dangerous level in your home; and

WHEREAS: Homes tested to date in Tioga County show 57% have elevated levels above 4 picocuries per liter in the basement and 33% on the first floor; and

WHEREAS: Radon is constantly being generated by the radium in rocks, soil, water and derived materials, such as certain building supplies; and

WHEREAS: Radon can get into buildings through cracks in solid floors and walls, construction joints, gaps in suspended floors, gaps around service pipes, cavities inside walls or the water supply; and

WHEREAS: Exposure to radon is a preventable health risk, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Surgeon General urge all Americans to protect their health by testing their homes, schools and other buildings for radon to prevent unnecessary exposure; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County Public Health offers free radon testing for Tioga County residents through the Healthy Neighborhoods program. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 607-687-8600; therefore

The TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE, County of Tioga, does hereby Proclaim the month of January 2022 as:

NATIONAL RADON ACTION MONTH

and urges all residents to take steps to educate themselves, their families, and the community about the importance of radon testing.

Dated: January 11, 2022

Martha Sauerbrey
MARTHA SAUERBREY, CHAIR
TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

