

Saint Paul Public Schools Facilities Department Radon Program Summary and Results

Radon is a naturally-occurring gas that can enter school buildings from the underlying soil and build up to levels that increase occupants' risk for developing lung cancer. SPPS follows the Minnesota Department of Health guidelines for radon testing and mitigation. Radon testing has been performed in all ground-contact rooms, including rooms above utility tunnels in every school in the district.

The table below shows the results of long-term testing that was conducted in 2014. The long-term tests lasted approximately 90 days and the result is an average radon level over the testing period. The US EPA action level is 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L). Any spaces that have an average radon level over 4 pCi/L are re-tested using a Continuous Radon Monitor (CRM), which records hourly radon levels. The hourly readings are separated into occupied and unoccupied time periods to determine the radon exposure when the spaces are occupied. In all spaces across SPPS, re-testing using CRM showed the radon level during occupied hours is below 4 pCi/L. Radon levels are lower during occupied hours due to air handler operation and other factors.

Every year, CRM is used to ensure that the air handlers are controlling radon levels during occupied hours in the spaces that had high average radon concentrations. Radon testing is conducted every 5 years or when there are major changes to the foundation or ventilation in the building.

Saint Paul Public Schools – 2014 Long-Term Radon Test Results					
School	Total Samples	Passing			Additional Testing/ Mitigation*
		0.0 – 1.9 pCi/L	2.0 – 2.9 pCi/L	3.0 – 3.9 pCi/L	≥ 4 pCi/L
1780 West 7th	11	1	7		3
Adams Spanish Immersion	28	28			
Administration Building**	21	20			
AGAPE High School**	34	32	1		
American Indian Magnet**	27	26			
Battle Creek Elementary	47	13	21	10	3
Battle Creek Middle	35	34		1	
Bridge View School**	44	43			
Brown & Bigelow	24	24			
Bruce Vento Elementary	67	67			
Bus Garage	6	6			
Central High School	49	43	3	3	
Chelsea Heights Elementary	20	14	2	1	3
Cherokee Heights Elementary	17	16	1		
Como Park Elementary	64 1 sample defective	62	1		
Como Park Senior High	83	83			
Creative Arts**	27	15	3	4	4
Crossroads Elementary	54	54			
Dayton's Bluff Elementary	27	25	2		
District Service Facility**	52	51			
Eastern Heights**	21	19	1		
EXPO Magnet**	31	28	2		
Farnsworth Lower	19	19			
Farnsworth Upper	30	28		2	
Focus Beyond**	39	38			
Four Seasons Elementary**	41	39	1		
Frost Lake Elementary	61	38	17	5	1

Saint Paul Public Schools – 2014 Radon Testing – Range of Results

School	Total Samples	Passing			Additional Testing/ Mitigation*
		0.0 – 1.9 pCi/L	2.0 – 2.9 pCi/L	3.0 – 3.9 pCi/L	≥ 4 pCi/L
Galtier Elementary**	34 1 sample defective	11	6	7	8
Gordon Parks High School**	26	17	7	1	
Groveland Park Elementary	15	15			
Hamline Elementary**	43	21	18	2	1
Harding High School	124	119	2	1	2
Hazel Park Academy	47	46	1		
Highland Park Elementary	29	18	9	2	
Highland Park Junior High	47	47			
Highland Park Senior High**	54	50	2		1
Highwood Hills Elementary	44	41	3		
Horace Mann Elementary	32	32			
Hubbs Center**	70	67		2	
Humboldt Senior High**	46	45			
John A Johnson Elementary	29	28	1		
J.J. Hill Elementary	39	3	11	24	1
Jackson Elementary	31	31			
Johnson High School**	68	65	2		
Journey's Secondary	22	20	2		
L'Etoile du Nord Lower**	41	33	6	1	
L'Etoile du Nord Upper	12	8	4		
LEAP High School**	30	25	3	1	
Linwood Monroe Lower**	19	18			
Linwood Monroe Upper	47	47			
Maxfield Elementary	53	35	17	1	
Mississippi Elementary	37	37			
Murray Junior High	36	31	1	1	3
Nokomis North	24	24			
Nokomis South	22	22			
Obama Elementary	50	49		1	
Parkway Montessori**	28	25	1	1	
Phalen Lake Elementary**	66	64	1		
Ramsey Middle School**	34	30	3		
Randolph Heights Elementary**	30	29			
RiverEast Elementary	28	27	1		
Riverview @ Roosevelt**	25	24			
Riverview Elem. (closed)**	31	30			
Rondo Education Center	108	108			
Saint Paul Music Academy**	40	39			
St. Anthony Park Elementary	33	33			
Student Placement Center	13	11	2		
The Heights Comm. School**	28	27			
Washington Technology**	90	89			
Wellstone Elementary**	53	50	1	1	
Wheelock Early Education	11	6	5		

*Spaces that exceeded 4 pCi/L were re-tested using Continuous Radon Monitoring to determine the occupied radon exposure level

**One spiked sample included in total number of samples