

Energy CLASS Prize – Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)

Module 2 - Surveying the Building & Quantitative IAQ Measurement

November 30, 2023





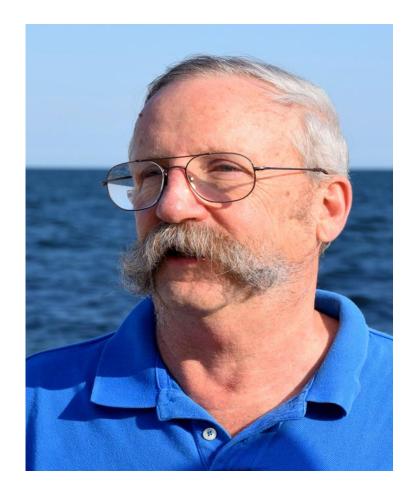
Overview of the Indoor Air Quality Course

- November 28, 2023 IAQ Terminology & Safety, Liability & Occupant Input
- November 30, 2023 Surveying the Building & Quantitative IAQ Measurement
- December 5, 2023 Air Moving Equipment & Hazard Mitigation
- December 7, 2023 Identifying Interventions & Communication
- December 12, 2023 IAQ Cohort



Paul H. Raymer

Paul H. Raymer is a Senior Advisor in Building Science with ICF and brings more than forty-five years of building science experience to the Energy CLASS Prize. He holds numerous BPI certifications and is a certified HERS Rater, IREC assessor, HARCA Board Member, full member of ASHRAE including being a voting member of the 62.2 SSPC, and a member of the AIVC Industry Advisory Committee. He is the heating and cooling sub-committee chair for NREL's Standard Work Specifications.





Agenda – November 30, 2023

Part 1

- Surveying the Building Qualitative Analysis
- Gain an understanding of the scope of the problems
- Keep Its (Clean, Dry, Pest-free, Contaminant-free, Safe, Ventilated, Comfortable, Maintained)

Part 2

- Quantitative Analysis
- Appreciate the difference between an acute and a chronic problem
- Understanding the purpose and use of diagnostic tools
- How to select and use the right measurement tool

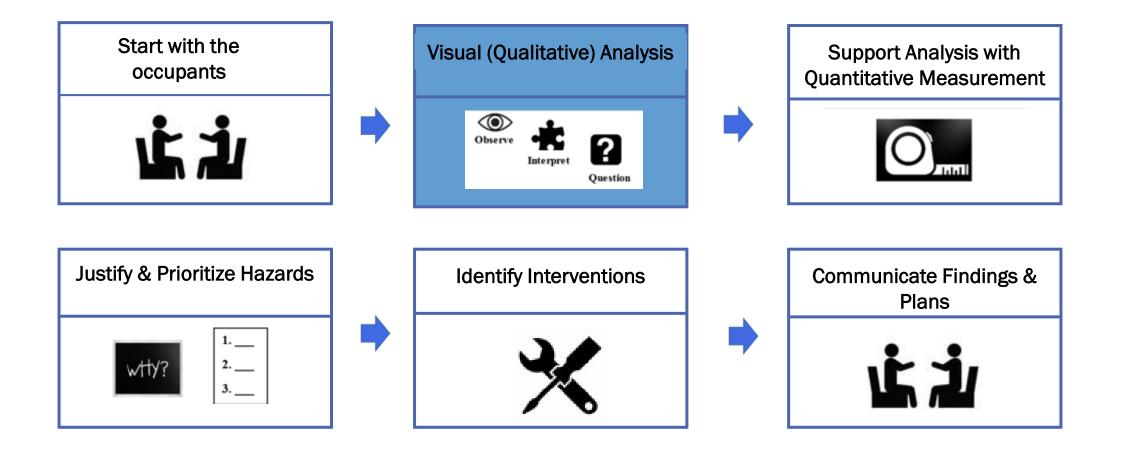


Learning Objectives

- Surveying the building Qualitative measurements
 - Understanding building health risks from visually inspecting the premises
- Quantitative measurements
 - How to use quantitative measurements in assessing building health and finding solutions
 - IAQ measurement tools



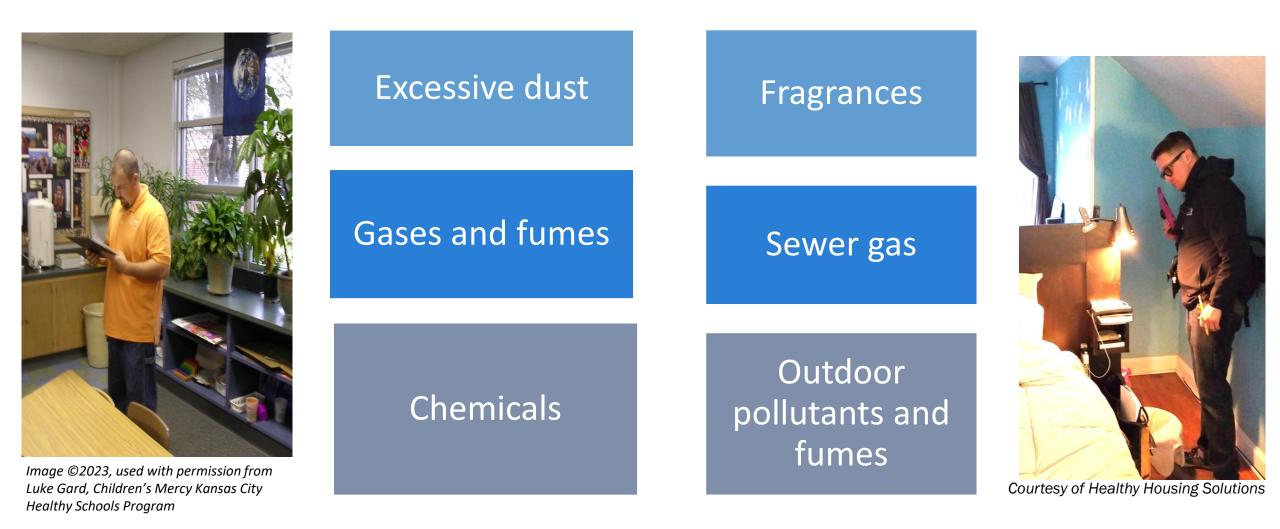
Building Analysis Process



Some of these materials were originally produced by the National Center for Healthy Housing through grant support from HUD Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes

Assessment Should Include Looking for a Variety of Other Contaminant Sources that may be Exposure Risks in Schools





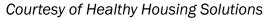
Assessment Must Include Environmental Triggers for Asthma





Throughout the building analysis, it is critically important to remember that the building is a system. Unlike a crime scene investigation, we don't even know if there is a "crime scene." Hopefully, there isn't!





American-Made Energy CLASS Prize | U.S. Department of Energy





Diagnostics – Use Your Senses!

Brain – school as a system

Smell – existing conditions

Breathing – IAQ



See – details Hearing – existing conditions

Communicating – clients

Trust your gut! Engage your experience! Keep an open mind!

Courtesy of Healthy Housing Solutions



Keep It Dry: Why is moisture an IAQ problem?

Moisture is a link to numerous problems:

- Mold & mildew
- Pests
- Building deterioration



Courtesy of Healthy Housing Solutions



Keep It Dry

- Is it a roof leak?
- Is it a plumbing leak?
- Is it condensation on piping or ducting?



Courtesy of Healthy Housing Solutions



Keep It Dry



Finding moisture and how it gets into the building is a major element of building air quality. Drain traps are vulnerable locations for leaks and vermin entry.

Courtesy of Healthy Housing Solutions



Keep It Dry



te



Keep It Dry

Look for condensation on cold water pipes and ducting.



Energy Vanguard



Keep It Clean Why is Cleanliness an IAQ Problem?

Filth breeds problems & hides solutions.



KQED





 Installed & maintained barrier mats (walk-off mats) at entrances.





Photo courtesy of ez-ier.com

Tack pads, also called tack mats, placed where workers exit the work site prevent them tracking dust and debris on their shoes.







Courtesy of Healthy Housing Solutions



Image ©2023, used with permission from Luke Gard, Children's Mercy Kansas City Healthy Schools Program





Problematic Cleaning Measures





- Pushing dust into the air increases the number of airborne particulates.
- Air fresheners may expel carcinogenic chemicals into the air.
- Antibacterial product can leave surface residues.



Courtesy of Healthy Housing Solutions







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Clutter is a problem in a school – making it more difficult to keep the spaces clean.



Keep It Clean – Waste Management

- Indoor Waste storage ventilated, protected, and clean. The simplicity of the task does not lessen its importance.
- Outdoor Waste storage protected and clean.



Square One



Courtesy of Healthy Housing Solutions



Keep It Clean – Chemical Products

• Keep chemical products in sealed, clearly labeled containers



Photo: Callie Richmond

Cleaning products work by mixing a variety of chemicals. Understanding what they are, the harm that can occur when mixing the chemicals together, requires knowledge and label reading.



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Indoor chemistry research: https://indoorchem.org/projects/homechem/



Keep It Pest-Free Why are Pests an IAQ Problem?

- A pest is any organism considered detrimental to humans in some manner.
- Pests create considerable waste products saliva, feces, and shedding body parts.
- Cockroaches are a known major allergen source and asthma trigger.
- 10% of people in the U.S. have a dust mite allergy.
- Pests can be destructive to the building.
- Applying insecticide can cause allergy problems





- Pests are carriers of viruses, bacteria, and molds.
- Mice can carry salmonella.
- Deer mice are carriers of hantavirus. Rats can carry the plague and murine typhus.
- Rat bites can cause serious injury.



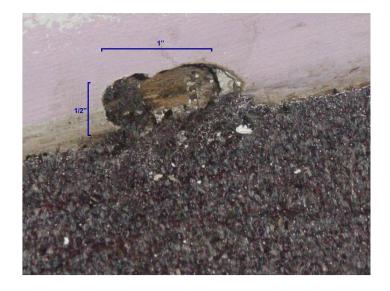








All images courtesy of Heyoka Solutions



Mice can fit through a crack or hole 16 mm in diameter – about the width of a dime. This can make it challenging to find the holes



Keep It Pest-Free



Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions

Moisture condensing on the glass is sustenance for these ants.

Ants don't usually cause an allergic reaction, but pesticides sprayed on them might







The cockroach frass behind this thermostat is bad but note that the thermostat was responding to the temperature in wall cavity when the air handler turned on and drew the space negative, sucking the air through this hole.

Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions



IPM – Integrated Pest Management

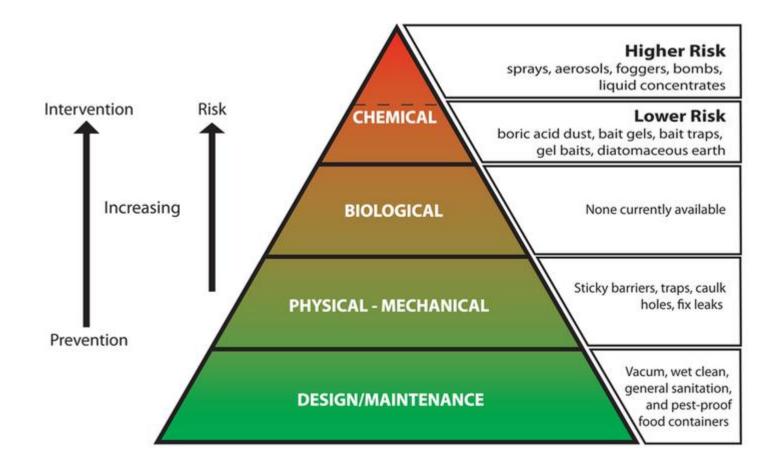
A good Integrated Pest Management program has three components:

- 1. Identifying and monitoring pest problems;
- 2. Selecting the best pest management tactics;
- 3. Record keeping and evaluating the program.

Refer to the EPA's Integrated Pest Management Principles https://www.epa.gov/safepestcontrol/integrated-pest-management-ipm-principles



IPM – Integrated Pest Management







Indoor Combustion Sources can be a Significant IAQ Issue (CH₄, CO, NO₂)

Consider ALL sources of combustion byproducts



Gas Appliances and Water Heaters

Gas Furnaces

Gas/Fuel Space Heaters

Candles and Incense



All images courtesy of Healthy Housing Solutions

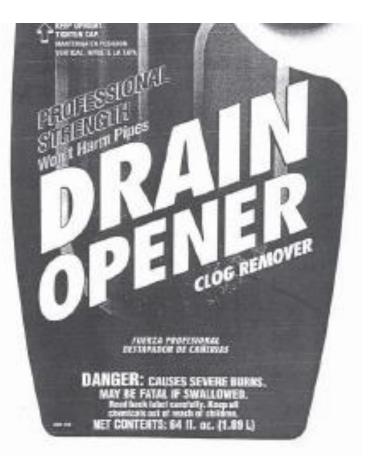


Food, Drugs and Cosmetics	 Food and Drug Administration
Pesticides	Environmental Protection Agency
Other Products Containing Hazardous Substances	Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC)
Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)	Occupational Safety and Health Administration



- Signal word
- Affirmative statement of principal hazard
- Statement to read other cautions on another panel if all labeling is not on Principal Display Panel





Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions





What's in the cleaning closet?

Warning Caution Danger

Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions





- Flash Point
- Extremely Flammable
- Flammable
- Combustible

Flammables start fires. Combustibles feed fires. If you need to choose, pick a combustible.



Labels to Look for when Purchasing Art and Craft Materials



All art and craft products to be purchased must bear a statement of conformity to ASTM D-4236 to ensure proper health hazard labeling in accordance with federal law.

Materials bearing these health hazard labels must not be purchased for use by students in K-6th grades.

If a product contains a hazardous substance, the label must include a signal word to call attention to the hazard, such as DANGER, CAUTION, WARNING, HAZARD, or POISON. The label may also include the statement "Keep out of reach of children". These are clear indications that the product is not appropriate for use by children age 12 and younger.



- Pesticide Product Name
- Ingredients
 - Active
 - Inert / Other
- "Keep Out of Reach of Children"
- Signal Work Poison/Danger/ Warning/Caution
- First Aid
- If Poison, then skull and crossbones
- Net contents.

EPA Pesticide Product Label

Active ingredient Boric Acid Inert Ingredients Total	40% 60% 100%
ORIGINAL FORMULA WITH ADDED LURE	
KILLS ROACHES WATERBUGS, AND SILVERFISH!	
CAUTION KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. SEE SIDE / BACK PANEL FOR FIRST AID AND ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONARY STATEMEN	
NET WT. 20Z. (56g)	 ว่า

EPA Registration Number is Key



The legal definitions of "friable" and "non-friable" asbestos clearly depicts the differences between dangerous and safe asbestos-containing materials (ACMs).

• Friable ACM is any material that contains more than one percent asbestos by weight or area, depending on whether it is a bulk or sheet material and can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by the pressure of an ordinary human hand.

• Non-friable ACM is any material that contains more than one percent asbestos, but cannot be pulverized under hand pressure.

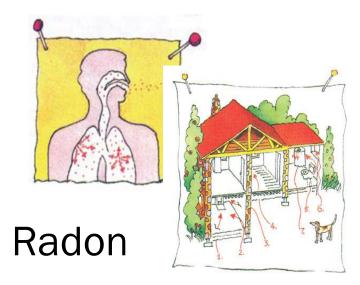


Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions

Friable & Non-Friable ACM



Keep It Contaminant-Free







All images courtesy of Heyoka Solutions



Keep It Comfortable/Climate Controlled

Overheated or overcooled classrooms have a significant impact on learning and Indoor Environmental Quality.



Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions



Keep It Maintained

- Ongoing building maintenance helps avoid hazards.
- Addressing lead-based paint is an extremely important maintenance task because its impact on health is so damaging





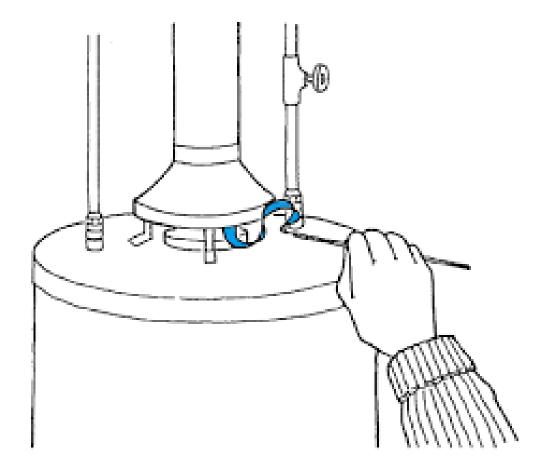
- Pour water down floor drains
- Mineral oil for infrequently used drains





Keep It Maintained

• Check combustion appliances for backdrafting, spillage, and flame roll out.



Natural Resources Canada

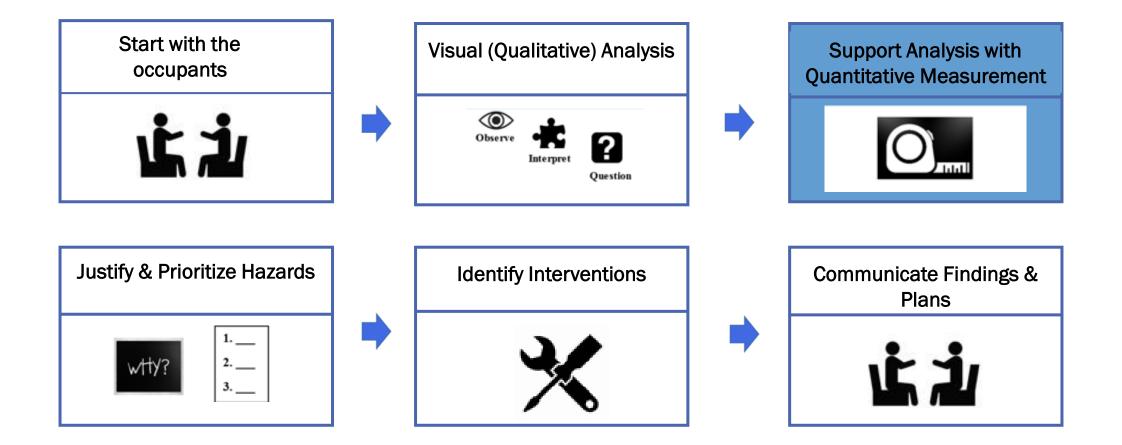


One word for the primary contaminant in your school

Quantitative Measurements



Building Analysis Process





Quantitative Measurement

A back to the basics moment

What is the difference between a qualitative and a quantitative assessment?



Quantitative Measurement

<u>h.</u>

Do I need to do quantitative measurement or collect a sample?



If yes, how do I select and use the right tool or sampling method?



What will my data look like?



How do I connect my results to evidence-based practice?



Basic Quantitative Measurements

- Temperature- ambient and surface (Infrared or IR)
- Moisture Bulk and Vapor (Relative Humidity or RH)
- Dew Point Temperature
- Combustion gases (natural gas, methane and propane)
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) including low levels
- Water temperature
- Pressure and flow (manometer and flow devices)
- Lighting



Advanced Quantitative Measurements

- Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)
- Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)
- Mold and Pollens
- Allergens
- tVOCs
- Particulates
- Water contaminants
- Chemical composition (surfaces or air)
- and...



Neighborhood IAQ Monitoring





https://www2.purpleair.com/

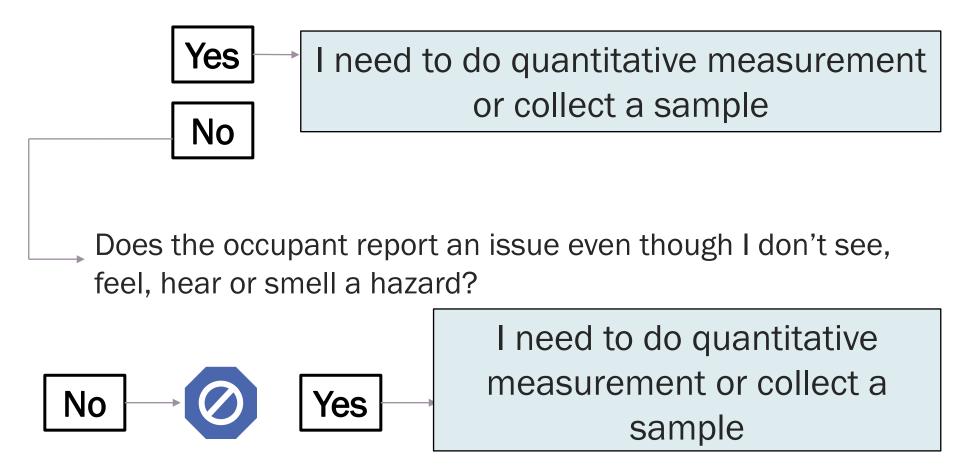
To dilute polluted air inside, clean fresh air must come from the outside.

Question 1: Do I need to do a quantitative measurement or collect a sample?



Question 1: Do I need to do a quantitative measurement or collect a sample?

Do I see, feel, hear or smell a possible hazard and need to confirm whether it is a problem or not?





- You don't see anything wrong with any of the gas appliances in the building.
- But the occupants report symptoms that sound like CO poisoning.

Do you need do quantitative measurement?



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You see mold on the interior of the basement wall.

Do you need to do quantitative measurement?

Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions



• You observe a variety of surfaces in the building that are extremely damp but you don't directly observe any mold.

Do you need to support your visual assessment with quantitative measurement?



Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions





Courtesy of Healthy Housing Solutions

- Your thermo-hygrometer measures a somewhat high level of humidity in the building you are assessing.
- A teacher told you that one student has a dust mite allergy but is pretty sure the classroom is properly maintained but she doesn't understand why her student is still having allergy symptoms.
- You think there might be a high level of dust mite allergen in the building despite the regular cleaning, but the source of the mites is not obvious.

Do you need to do quantitative measurement?





Basic quantitative measurement tools:

- 1. Combustible gas
- detector
- 2. Smoke stick
- 3. Carbon monoxide detector
- 4. Thermo-hygrometer
 - (Portable psychrometer)
- 5. Infrared thermometer
- 6. Moisture meter

Advanced quantitative measurement tools:

- 1. Anemometer
- 2. Manometer
- 3. Flow hood
- 4. Particle counter
- 5. Multi-gas detector
- 6. Infrared camera

Premium quantitative measurement tools:

- 1. Formaldehyde detector
- 2. Carbon dioxide detector
- 3. Ozone detector
- 4. Nitrogen dioxide detector



Yes I need to do quantitative measurement

Okay, what tool should I use?

- 1. What is the purpose of the measurement?
- 2. What are the characteristics of the data that I need my measurement to produce?



- 1. What is the purpose of the measurement?
- 2. What are the characteristics of the data that I need my measurement to produce?

I need to determine if there is enough air flow in a classroom. A teacher says it often seems stuffy in the classroom.

Maybe I'll use a smoke stick.

No, that only tells me which way the air is flowing.

I'll use an anemometer. That will tell me how much air is flowing in cubic feet per minute. Or use a CO_2 monitor if it is available.



- 1. What is the purpose of the measurement?
- 2. What are the characteristics of the data that I need my measurement to produce?

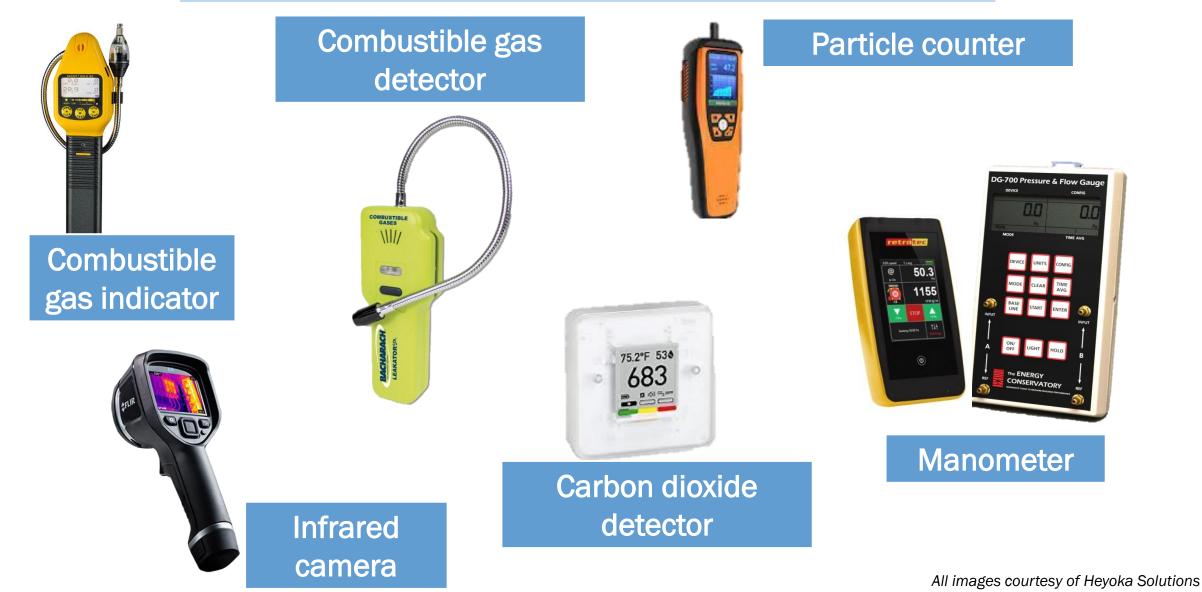
I smelled a rotten egg odor in the basement, and I need to figure out if sewer gases are the problem.

A gas leak detector will produce a sound if there is sewer gas.

But that only tells me if there is any gas at all in the area.

I need a gas indicator to tell me the explosive limit of a specific gas - methane.





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Tool	What it measures:
Combustible gas detector	Combustible gases, including natural gas, propane, methane
Smoke Stick	Direction of air flow
Carbon monoxide detector	Carbon monoxide gas
Thermo-hygrometer	Temperature and humidity
Infrared thermometer	Surface temperature of any object
Moisture meter	Moisture in wood or drywall
Air quality monitor	CO ₂ , PM _{2.5} , PM ₁₀ , HCHO

Note that sampling is an advanced step and something to turn over to a licensed or certified professional.



- Understanding instrument variables:
- Accuracy
 - Ability to detect true value of a measured quantity
- Range
 - Low and high values that encompass the purpose of measuring a given parameter
- Resolution
 - Increment of change an instrument can detect
- Sensitivity
 - Smallest increment that can initially be detected



Airflow - Smoke Stick

Airflow: To detect airflow, use special chemical smoke or a piece of tissue. Release puffs of smoke near openings between the complaint area and adjacent areas, openings include:

- Cracks
- Ducts
- Wiring and plumbing passageways
- Leaky or open doors and windows
- Release smoke near vents and grilles to determine airflow direction, if any. Do not breathe on or move quickly near puffs of smoke.

https://www.epa.gov/iaq-schools/indoor-air-quality-problem-solving-tool



Airflow - Smoke Stick

- Ventilated
- Safe
- Maintained



Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions





Duct Leakage

- Dry
- Pest free
- · Safe
- Ventilated
- Contaminant Free
- Maintained



Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions



Animals in the Classroom

Animals in the classroom

- Pest free
- · Safe
- Ventilated
- Contaminant Free
- Maintained



IAQ Monitor



Courtesy of Healthy Housing Solutions



Combustible Gas - Grounds Maintenance

- · Safe
- Ventilated
- Contaminant Free
- Maintained





Image ©2023, used with permission from Luke Gard, Children's Mercy Kansas City Healthy Schools Program

Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions



Carbon Monoxide - Food Service

- Safe
- Ventilated
- Contaminant Free
- Maintained





Image ©2023, used with permission from Luke Gard, Children's Mercy Kansas City Healthy Schools Program



Pressure - Food Service

- · Safe
- Ventilated
- Contaminant Free
- Maintained



Digital manometers



Air temperature & relative humidity Thermo-Hygrometer (or Sling Psychrometer)

- Dry
- Ventilated
- Safe
- Contaminant Free
- Maintained
- Comfortable Climate Controlled



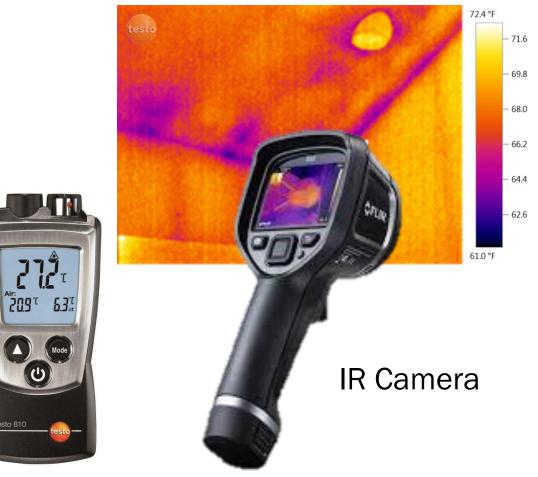
Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions



Surface temperatures - Infrared Thermometer (or Camera)

- Dry
- Pest free
- Safe
- Contaminant Free
- Maintained

IR thermometer



Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions



Moisture Meter

- Dry
- Ventilated
- Pest free
- Contaminant free
- Safe
- Maintained

Moisture Encounter Plus Scale 1. • - Wood, Timber Scale 2. • - Drywall, Roofing Scale 3. • - Plaster, Brick	Moisture Encounter Plus Scale 1. • - Wood, Timber Scale 2. • - Drywall, Roofing Scale 3. • - Plaster, Brick	5 10	15 20 20 40 60 	54H,O Wood 25 30 80 100 COMPARATIVE
ON/OFF SCALE HOLD/AUDIO		Moistu sc sc	ale 1. e -	Wood, Timber Drywall, Roofing
	Non-Destructive Moisture Detection	ON/OFF	SCALE	HOLD/AUDIO

Courtesy of Heyoka Solutions
Moisture meter



CO₂ Monitor

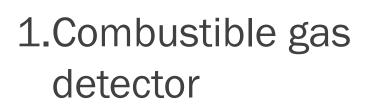
- Ventilated
- Contaminant free
- Safe



Courtesy of Aranet

CO₂ Monitor

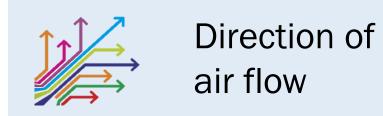






Combustible gas indicator

2.Smoke stick



3.Carbon monoxide detector





4. Thermo-hygrometer(Portable psychrometer)



5. Infrared thermometer



Surface Temperature

6. Moisture meter



Level of moisture in wood and drywall



Units for fungal spores:

- Surface or Bulk Samples
 - TS = Total Spores
 - CFUs = Colony Forming Units
- Air Samples
 - TS/m³ = Total spores per cubic meter
 - CFUs/m³ = Colony Forming Units per cubic meter

Detailed Mold I	kepo	rt	(WATER	-INDICA	TING FU	NGI ARE	SHOWN	BELOW I	IN RED)
Analysis Method	Air Analysis		Air Analysis		Air Analysis				
Lab Sample #	52221176-1		52221176-2		52221176-3		3		
Sample Identification	26826572		26826576		26826571				
Sample Location	BASEMENT		KITCHEN 1st FLOOR		OUTSIDE				
Sample Type / Metric	Air-O-Cell/75.0L		Air-O-Cell/75.0L		Air-O-Cell/75.0L		5.0L		
Analysis Date	Tue October 09, 2018		Tue October 09, 2018		Tue October 09, 2018		, 2018		
Determination	PROBLEM		NORMAL		CONTROL				
Fungal Types Identified	Raw Count	Spores / m ³	% of Total	Raw Count	Spores / m ³	% of Total	Raw Count	Spores / m ³	% of Total
*INDOOR PROBLEM FUNGI									
Penicillium/Aspergillus	9,250	123,025	99						
≭ ∗Non-Problem Fungi									
Alternaria				7	93	17	3	40	1
Ascospores							23	306	14
Basidiospores	3	40	<1	1	13	2			

Datailad Mold Dapart

Brevard County/Pure Maintenance FL



A laboratory radon test result will provide the radon level at the moment of the test.

picocurie/Liter = pCi/L

EPA Radon Action Level = 4 pCi/L

World Health Organization Reference Level = 2.7 pCi/L

National Average Indoor Radon Concentration = 1.3 pCi/L

National Average Outdoor Radon Concentration = 0.4 pCi/L

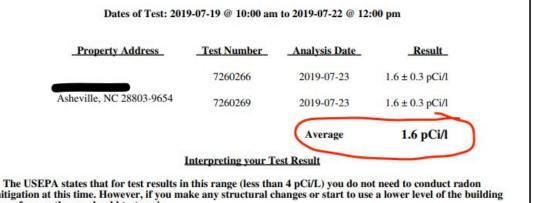


Radon Measurement Technician Blue Mountain Home Inspections Michael Van Hall

Weaverville, NC 28787-7208 828-484-2202

Device Information Pro Chek Activated Charcoal Serial#: 7260266,7260269 Analyzed by: Air Chek

Real Estate Radon Test Information



mitigation at this time. However, if you make any structural changes or start to use a lower level of the building more frequently you should test again.

No tampering was observed during the radon test.

The subject home described has been tested for the presence of radon gas according to US EPA short-term testing protocols. The test and analysis have been performed to comply with EPA's Home Buyer's and Seller's Guide to Radon. This report represents the average radon concentration at the time of sampling and at the specific location in the building. However, it must be noted that radon concentrations will vary from day to day and from season to season.

Question 4: How do I connect my results to evidence-based practice?

Question 4: How do I connect my results to evidence-based practice?



Hazard	Health standards
	Average level should not be above 6 parts per million.
Carbon monoxide	Maximum level in a 15 minute period should not be above 87 parts per million.
	BPI 1200* Standard - exit the building at 70ppm
Radon	Level should not be above 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L).

Health standards also exist for:

- formaldehyde
- carbon dioxide and nitrogen dioxide,
- indoor particulate matter, and
- dust mite, cat, mouse and cockroach allergen levels.

Advanced and expensive measuring equipment are required to make these measurements accurately and consistently.

*BPI = Building Performance Institute



Dampness and Mold

The relationship between dampness, mold exposure and health effects cannot be quantified precisely.

There are no quantitative health-based guidelines or thresholds that can be recommended for acceptable levels of contamination with mold.

World Health Organization's Guidelines for Indoor Air Quality, Dampness and Mould, © World Health Organization 2009

American Lung Association Asthma resources: <u>https://www.lung.org/lung-health-diseases/lung-disease-lookup/asthma/health-professionals-educators/asthma-friendly-schools-initiative/toolkit/resources-and-tools</u>



Note that these numbers are reasonable averages. For example, $PM_{2.5}$ on the EPA's NAAQS table is 35.0 μ g/m³ for 24 hours. Health Canada just says, "As low as possible."

	Health Parameter Guide							
PM2.5	PM10	CO2(ppm)	Levels of Health Concern	HCHO(mg/m³)	Displayed Contents			
0.0-12.0	0-54	0-700	Good	0-0.1	Healthy			
12.1-35.4	55-154	701-1000	Moderate					
35.5-55.4	155-254	1001-1500	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	>0.1	Unhealthy			
55.5-150.4	255-354	1501-2500	Unhealthy	- 0.1	onneariny			
150.5-250.4	355-424	2501-5000	Very Unhealthy					
≥250.5	≥425	≥5001	Hazardous					

These are not official indoor air quality values. They are included here for general reference.



What test equipment do you have? Select all that apply

- A. Temperature ambient and surface (Infrared or IR)
- B. Psychrometer dew point, RH
- C. Combustion gas detector (natural gas, methane and propane)
- D. Carbon Monoxide (CO) detector including low levels
- E. Pressure and flow (manometer and flow devices)
- F. Moisture meter
- G. Lighting meter



Phase II Report Point – Keep in Mind for Next Steps

- Identify the differences between "friable" and "non-friable" asbestos.
- Which "Keep Its" do you feel are most directly applicable to what you can do for your school?
- How can quantitative measurements be used to ensure Keep It principles are being followed?
- What are ways you could incorporate students in learning about measurements of air quality?
- When are quantitative measurements necessary?



Next time – December 5, 2023

- Air moving equipment Keep It Ventilated ventilate the remainder
- Hazard mitigation



Questions & Discussions

