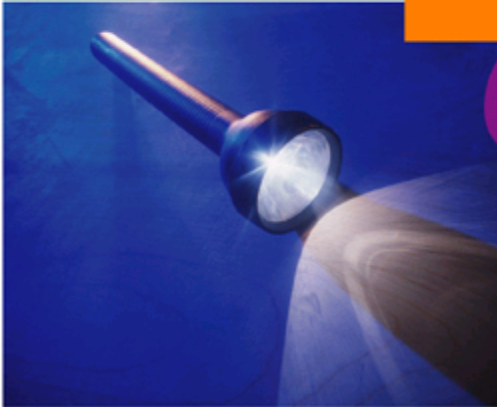


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Q&A:

"ASK THE INSPECTOR'S INSPECTOR"

MCDONALD HOME INSPECTION, INC.

ILLINOIS LICENSE # 450001666

JAMES D. MCDONALD / INSPECTOR-OWNER / 8453 FOREST PRESERVE RD / DURAND IL 61024 / 815 742-1083 / JIM@inspect4us.com

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About MHI

McDonald Home Inspection, Inc. is owned and operated by Jim McDonald, a life-long resident of Rockford, IL and vicinity with strong community ties. MHI is not a franchise with a revolving stable of novice inspectors. All home inspections are performed by me, an inspector with over 30 combined years in residential, multi-family, and commercial building, rehabilitation and inspection.

Contact MHI

To schedule your inspection (usually within 48 hours):

1. Call Jim at (815) 742-1083
OR

2. Send email to:

JIM@inspect4us.com

with your phone #s, current address, and property address and when you are hoping to schedule your inspection.

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Q&A: "Ask the Inspector's Inspector"

by Jim McDonald, Owner MHI / IL Licensed Home Inspector

McDonald Home Inspection (MHI) has started a new question and answer eNews series to help homeowners, home seekers, and realtors understand important tips about home inspections and maintaining your home, with the occasional humorous "home inspection nightmare" sprinkled in. Learn and enjoy!

Email with your good questions to answer in future issues:

ASK@inspect4us.com

Visit the McDonald Home Inspection website to learn more:

www.inspect4us.com

Realtor raises eyebrows

From Rockford Buyer

Q: We are considering purchasing a home in Rockford, Illinois. I had written several questions for the listing agent and one of them was: is radon an issue in this neighborhood? The realtor responded in writing that since the basement was fully exposed and since there was drain tile, that radon would not be a problem. Could this be reliable information? How serious is radon?

A: People familiar with only the generalities of radon, some background information may be useful. Radon is an odorless, colorless gas that occurs from the decay of uranium, a radioactive element. The degree of threat that it poses to your health under enclosed conditions is a matter of some debate. Scientist believe that health statistics data gathered from uranium miners can be used to

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predict the risk that radon gas poses to the general public, specifically lung cancer. Other experts feel that these statistics do not serve useful for determining this particular health threat. Even as a home inspector I am not in a position to tell you that radon is a health threat. What I can say is that the Environmental Protection Agency www.epa.gov/radon has determined that it is. The "2008 Radon Disclosure Form" has also raised awareness of home buyers. As a result, selling your home in the future could entail an additional point of negotiation if radon levels are found to be high. Mitigation is the only alternative to remedy high levels of radon. The simplest radon mitigation explanation I can give you would be to watch the video www.thisoldhouse.com/radonmitigation.com. Depending on sketchy information as fully exposed basements, drain tile or radon levels of the neighbor's house cannot serve as the basis for levels of radon for any home you are interested in. If you love the house have it tested. This is the only way to determine if radon levels meets or exceeds the EPA acceptable risk standard.

For more links about systems that keep homes safe and running smoothly, visit the "HELPFUL" and "NEWSLETTER" tab on my website.

| "ASK THE INSPECTOR'S INSPECTOR" IS PROVIDED TO IL HOMEOWNERS, HOME SEEKERS, REALTORS |

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