

Your Health and Vapor Intrusion

RESIDENTIAL

The amount of chemicals that enter buildings from contaminated soil vapor are typically not high enough to affect most people's health. However, the risks may be greater when people are exposed to high amounts of some chemicals for a long time, or if exposed people are sensitive or their health is compromised.



Some people may be more vulnerable to health effects because they experience additional exposures to hazards in the workplace or home, inadequate access to healthcare and healthy food, and stress from any source including structural racism and other forms of inequity. MDH believes all people should have opportunities to participate in decisions that affect their environment and health.

Examples of people who may be sensitive or vulnerable include:

- people who are pregnant or may become pregnant
- infants and young children
- elderly people
- people who are living with chronic disease or a compromised immune system
- people who face socioeconomic inequities and circumstances that affect their ability to be healthy



MDH is especially concerned about pregnancies in the first trimester when the contaminant trichloroethylene (TCE) is present.

If you have concerns about anyone living in your home or building who may be a sensitive individual, please contact MDH. Personal or health information you share with MDH is confidential. If you contact us, we may be able to:

- speed up sampling or building mitigation
- share what we know about health risks
- suggest actions to reduce potential exposure

Questions? Contact the Minnesota Department of Health

Site Assessment and Consultation Unit

Call (651) 201-4897 or Email health.hazard@state.mn.us

Vapor Intrusion (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/hazardous/topics/vaporintrusion.html>)