



Let's Clear The Air: Benefits Of Air Cleaners And Purifiers

Take a deep breath. If you feel short-winded, pain in your chest, or have a little ear or throat irritation, it may be time to think about purchasing an air cleaner and purifier. They help reduce allergies, lower the chance of getting an airborne disease, improve sleep and so much more. Air purifiers make indoor air cleaner and healthier for you and your family.

Health Benefits: Oftentimes there is more pollution, pet dander and dust mites inside rather than outside a home. Air purifiers can help kick those pesky problems out the door. Of the many health benefits of air purifiers and cleaners, some of the more significant ones include:

- Help lessen asthma attacks
- Sanitize indoor air
- Filter out harsh indoor chemicals
- Protect your home from mold spores

Decreases Nasty Odors: A scented candle or diffuser may hide odors, but not forever. And neither can make the air clean, fresh or safe. The best way to rid your home of unwanted odors like smoke, food or garbage is with an air purifier and cleaner.

Skin Benefits: As the body's largest organ, the skin also benefits from investing in an air cleaner and purifier.

- Cleaners and purifiers can help alleviate itchy, red, irritated patches.
- Summer sun can lead to dehydration, which can cause dry, tight-feeling skin. Air cleaners and purifiers help hold moisture in the air, improving your skin's hydration and elasticity.

Considering Your Needs: We offer many models of air cleaners and purifiers for many different spaces, from large living rooms to small bedrooms and everything in between.

Our efficient and effective Aprilaire Air Cleaner captures and removes harmful particles from the air and circulates clean air back into your home. It also:

- Requires little-to-no maintenance
- Provides high-quality filtering
- Traps 98 percent of airborne dust

WestAIR can help you determine the air purifying needs of your home. So, let's clear the air and help you take advantage of the benefits of air cleaners and purifiers. Contact us today to learn more, or to schedule service.


Joe Lynch

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Create A Healthier Home Environment

Spring is often an ideal time to put household projects into action. And whether it's repairing damaged or broken items, or expanding your living space, consider how improvement projects can be geared toward making your home healthier.

Establishing a healthy home means different things to different people. You may be one who likes to incorporate eco-friendly products, or those with young children or a mobility-impaired senior

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who wants a home that's free from potential hazards. Others may view a healthy home as one that alleviates allergies.

Here are a few ways to improve your home environment:

Be aware of furniture materials. Toxic PBDEs, which are chemicals used as flame retardants on furniture fabrics produced prior to 2006, can send toxins into the air. Some manufacturers may still use these flame retardants in new forms, but with similar risks. Before purchasing furniture, ask if a product is treated, and select naturally fire-resistant materials like wool and cotton.

Lighten up. Lighting can have a dramatic impact on whether a home feels inviting, warm and/or uplifting. Experiment with different types of bulbs and lighting fixtures to turn drab and dreary rooms into brighter places. Proper lighting also improves safety.

Eliminate tripping hazards. Consider the color, placement and number of area rugs in your home. And add nightlights in hallways to help make it easier to see obstacles.

Declutter the home. A cluttered space can affect emotions, never mind attracting dust and making a home harder to clean. Adding storage shelves or cabinets can help keep items organized.

Whether your project is big or small, sprucing up your home can help you and your family feel rested and recharged — and that's a healthy way to enjoy your home. ■



Left unchecked, an A/C system can lose 5% of its operating efficiency due to dust and dirt buildup. Schedule a tune-up today!

Supply And Return Vents 101

A home with central heating and cooling has a network of ducts that provide a pathway for air to cycle to and from your HVAC system. When an air handler is on, it's simultaneously blowing air into rooms and sucking air out of them.

Supply vents are the covers for the openings in the wall through which conditioned air is blown out. This air travels from the system, through ductwork and out of the supply vents.

Return vents are also covers for the openings in the walls, except they're connected to the return ducts. When an air handler is running, it sucks the air from rooms into those return vents and back to your system. Return vents are typically larger than supply vents, and you won't feel air being blown out of them.

Make sure furniture isn't blocking supply and return vents. By keeping them clear, you'll make it much easier for air to flow efficiently. ■



Closing vents in unused rooms forces your HVAC equipment to work harder than it has to, which risks damaging the equipment and increasing energy bills.

Tip

Change the batteries in your CO alarm and smoke detector at least once a year. Make a habit of replacing batteries each spring or fall.

Clean And Comfortable Air

All homes, no matter how clean they appear, are contaminated with dirt and dust. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, indoor air is up to five times more polluted than the air outside. If you suffer from allergies or asthma, you already know the negative impact polluted air can have. And harmful particles could also include airborne viruses, leading to an increased likelihood of colds and flu.

A whole-home air purifier is installed as part of your home's heating and cooling system to effectively remove polluted air not just in one room — unlike a portable air purifier — but throughout your home. Air runs through the filter media and clean air is delivered in every room, silently and efficiently.

You can fight against indoor air pollution with a whole-home air purifier. We're here to help keep your family breathing easy. ■



Whole-home air purifiers can help reduce allergy and asthma triggers, and airborne viruses.

Earth & Atmosphere

Nature's Sound And Fury

Thunderstorms are one of nature's most awe-inspiring phenomena. A single bolt of lightning is five times hotter than the surface of the sun and can discharge up to 100 million volts of electrical energy. Lightning occurs when electricity travels between the positive molecular charge at the top of a storm cloud and the negative charge at the bottom.

Thunder is the result of a set of sound vibrations created by lightning and travels at a speed of 1,088 feet per second. To measure your distance in miles from a thunderstorm, count the number of seconds between a flash of lightning and the sound of thunder and divide by five.

Spring conditions are ripe for the formation of thunderstorms that, in addition to lightning, can be accompanied by dangerous hail. The best way to stay safe during a thunderstorm is to stay indoors. If you're caught outside, stay away from trees, poles and metal objects. Remember, never underestimate this unpredictable force of nature. ■



Lightning can strike up to 10–15 miles from the main storm cloud.

Question & Answer



Upgrading to an efficient toilet can help save you money on your water bill.

When does a toilet need to be replaced?

Short of a flat-out failure to work, here are some factors to help determine if it's time for a new toilet installation:

- **The porcelain is cracked:** Once a small crack forms, replacement is imminent. The crack will continue to grow until you discover a leak, or even worse, the toilet breaks when you sit down on it.
- **The bowl seems dirty all the time:** As a toilet ages and receives regular cleaning, its bowl surface can become rougher. This can make it much harder to clean no matter how you try to scrub it.
- **It needs constant repairs:** Toilet components wear out over time. and there comes a point where repairs aren't possible. It might be less expensive to get a new toilet and save money in the long run.
- **You want to conserve water:** Many toilets, especially older models, use a lot of water with every flush. It may be worth the time, effort and cost of installing a new toilet that uses less water. ■