

Enjoying Your Indoor Air

In spring, many people fear the outside air, due to pollen and other seasonal allergy irritants. What many people do not realize is that indoor air pollutants may be even worse. They include pollen, molds, fungal spores, viruses, bacteria, smoke, gas combustion by-products, outgassing from carpets, furniture, plywood, and drywall, cleaning supplies and other personal care items, pet dander, dust mites and their feces and body fragments, cockroach body parts, and more. Disgusting!

Worse, it's unhealthy. Over 50 million Americans suffer from allergies and 20 million have asthma. Tighter building envelopes in the quest for greater energy efficiency are making things worse. We spend most of our time indoors, surrounded by the indoor air pollutants. The larger pollutants, less than 10 microns, are caught in our throats (by comparison, a human hair is 30 to 120 microns in diameter). Smaller pollutants are inhaled into our lungs where they can remain trapped for years.

There are four principle ways to fight indoor air pollution and improve filtration in your home. These are source control, ventilation, air filters, and air cleaners.

Source Control - The starting point for a home indoor air quality strategy is source control. It makes sense. If you can control a pollutant before it becomes airborne, you're ahead of the game. Source control strategies include the use of low emission paints, varnishes, and carpeting, no smoking, no pets, maintaining optimum humidity levels, regular cleaning, and regular servicing of combustion appliances, such as furnaces. Unfortunately, you cannot always control pollutant sources.



Did you know?

Climate Control participated in the SD Special Olympics 2011 Polar Plunge!

Our team name, "The Geo Giants," raised a little over \$1200.00 for this FREEZIN for a REASON fundraiser. Pictures are on page 2. Take a look! **A BIG THANK YOU to all of our supporters and customers that donated to our team!!**

Inside...

Polar Plunge & Design an Ad Pictures

Indoor Air cont.

\$50.00 Maintenance Discounts

Win a \$50.00 or a \$25.00 Gift Card!

Check out our REDESIGNED website!

www.climatecontrolprofessionals.com

Polar Plunge Pictures



"THE GEO GIANTS!"



Geo Giants at the starting line!

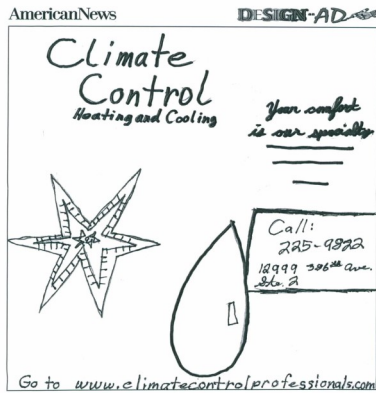


Taking the plunge!



Geo Giants Freezin for a Reason!

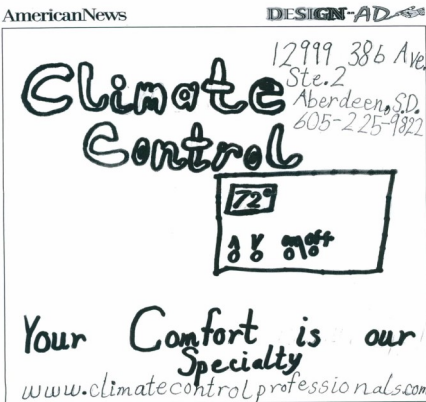
Design An Ad



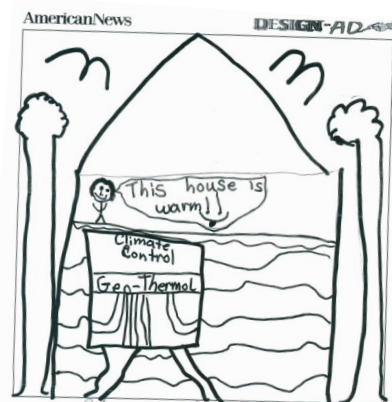
Drawn by: Brandon



Drawn by: Ruth



Drawn by: Brooklyn



Drawn by: Alexis

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Ventilation - After source control comes fresh air ventilation. According to the EPA, the air inside your home is far worse than outside air. Yet, when it's really hot or really cold, who's going to open the windows? It's uncomfortable and unaffordable.

There is a solution for *some* homes that improves fresh ventilation without the comfort or energy costs. It's called an energy recovery ventilator. Not only can it improve air quality, it can actually reduce utilities in certain circumstances.

Air Filters - Has your air quality remained the same, even after the installation of that expensive filter? All filters have a "pressure drop," or amount of resistance. Even cheap throw-away filters can become problematic if not changed on a regular basis. As dirt collects on the filter, the pressure drop rises. Far worse than low cost throw-away filters are the high pressure drop filters, which have pressure drops of 0.35" w.g. or higher (some have pressure drops exceeding 0.5" w.g. by themselves). Homeowners buy expensive filters because they want to improve the air quality and comfort in their homes. Ironically, the filters often make things worse.

Look inside the panel of a furnace or blower for a central air conditioning system and you will find the manufacturer's rating label. Typically, one of the ratings is "Total ESP." Total ESP stands for Total External Static Pressure. When the Total External Static Pressure is exceeded in a home comfort system, the fan slows. When the fan slows, there are a couple of possible consequences. First, there may not be sufficient air flow to ensure enough air is delivered to the end of the longest duct runs. When this occurs, these rooms may feel stuffy and too hot or cold, even though the temperature is comfortable elsewhere. Second, the air flow passing over the evaporator coil may be insufficient to ensure proper dehumidification. If the evaporator coil doesn't fully dehumidify, it and/or the surrounding plenum box can become a breeding ground for bacteriological growth and contaminants.

Fortunately, the HVAC industry has a number of excellent solutions for homeowners who want better filtration than the minimal amount found with a throw-away filter, but do not want the comfort or bacteriological problems of a high pressure drop filter. These include residential HEPA (high efficiency particulate arresting) filters, deep pleated media air filters, and electronic air cleaners.

Air Cleaning - The fourth way to fight indoor air pollution is air cleaning. Do not buy the cheap tabletop and gadget air cleaners you hear advertised. They are a waste of money. According to an American Lung Association® report, "The reviewed data provide little reason to endorse the use of inexpensive tabletop, appliance-type air cleaners, regardless of the technology they employ. In general, high-efficiency particle collection requires larger filters or electronic air cleaners." We recommend a whole-house approach with a duct mounted UV light and either a HEPA filtration system or an electronic air cleaner. The installed cost of an electronic air cleaner is roughly 30 cents a day over the life of the air cleaner. What's appropriate for your home depends on your budget, comfort system, and family.

Whether it's installing a new ventilation system, filtration system, or air filter Climate Control is happy to help with all of your comfort system needs.

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True/False The more expensive the air filter, the better it will work.

True/False The air outside is much worse than the air in my home.

True/False One solution for improving my indoor air quality is improving ventilation.

True/False We have 3 case studies on our newly designed website.

Please contact me about:

- Heat/Cool system maintenance Upgrading heating/cooling equipment
 Lowering my electric bill
 Improving indoor air quality

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Best Time: _____

Limit 1 entry per person. No purchase necessary. A purchase will not improve your chances of winning. Winner will be selected at random within 30 days of entry deadline. All decisions are final. All entrants agree to contest rules, which require winner to sign a prize and publicity release unless precluded by law. Must be 18 to enter. Failure to comply results in disqualification. Entries void if incomplete or illegible. No responsibility is assumed for lost, late, or illegible entries. Company employees and family members are ineligible. Odds depend on the number of entries received. Acceptance of the prize implies consent to use name and image in promotional material with the prize as compensation. All taxes are the responsibility of the winner.



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