

Responses to Air Purifier question on NHAIS, 10/2020

Meredith PL:

These are what we bought:

https://smile.amazon.com/gp/product/B0859NYXTW/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o00_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1
https://smile.amazon.com/gp/product/B07VVF6R5L/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o01_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1

I didn't want to invest too much because we are renovating and will have a built in system. I bought some for my house, too that were even cheaper. Working great.

https://smile.amazon.com/gp/product/B08BR1CR78/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o00_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1

Belmont PL:

We have one in our bathroom. We have a single person bathroom with no ventilation (original 1927 building, the restroom is the size of a closet) so we have a HEPA filter unit with a UV function plugged in next to the toilet. Current benefits include reducing stinky and stagnant air that used to drift up the stairs and permeate the main library and out into the children's room from the restroom. The white noise is also a bonus since the acoustics are not entirely inaudible in the restroom (concrete floor). Aside from that, results are unknown! This was the one we purchased, at the time it had a coupon that brought the price down.

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07HMMM8LH/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&psc=1

Cook Memorial Library

I bought an air purifier for our meeting room so we could open it to use for small group meetings of ten or fewer.

This article had information that helped me make a decision, including the CDC's updated guidance and links to a FAQ document compiled by a group of scientists studying COVID-19.

<https://www.nhpr.org/post/cdc-acknowledges-coronavirus-can-spread-airborne-transmission#stream/0>

I purchased the Blueair Classic 605. Consumer Reports rates it highly, and it fits all the criteria in the guidance document from Harvard-CU Boulder Schools for Health group. Our meeting room is 800 sq.ft.

Wiggin Memorial Library

We have purchased 5 small HEPA air purifiers from Amazon (https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B004VGIGVY/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&psc=1).

The why? It can't hurt and there is some knowledgeable commentary out there that it could help even if only a little. With winter on it's way, it seems like a relatively low-cost buffer. It can make staff feel a little safer to have something in addition to the changes to the HVAC system. These are portable so a staff member can move them into any space. We also have one running in our entryway where people are now doing contactless pickup.

Colby Memorial Library

I did buy four with CARES money. I also did research and while I'm not completely sold on the idea they will work for covid it seemed like they might and other options were not feasible without cutting into our roof.

I bought the Honeywell 300 series which had good reviews. They cover 450 square feet and circulate a good amount of times per hour.

They have a germ setting and also a turbo setting that I put on after we've had a number of patrons in. The germ cycle is nearly silent and the turbo is quite loud. The filters aren't cheap but I bought some through CARES.

We also upgraded our furnace filters and will have windows cracked.

I can send you the model number if you are interested.

It's so hard to know, isn't it? It really came down to "it can't hurt any!"

Webster Memorial Library

I just ordered an air purifier (HEPA filter). At our trustees meeting on Monday I proposed making a mandatory mask policy for the winter until windows could be opened once again (small town, small building, no A/C.). Two of three trustees did not want any mandatory mask policy, one was very adamant and said he would refuse to require masks in a public building. So I requested that I could open windows at will even with the heat on, and for an air purifier, and got an affirmative vote to both requests immediately. I'm not sure they realized what the oil bill will look like! I was ok with no mask policy when we reopened because all the windows were open all day so air circulation was great as there's almost always a breeze here. But every year before covid, I would get several patrons who would actually tell me they have "a touch of sickness a,b,or c" and need books and movies to get them through it, all the while spreading their germs. And then there's those who you know are sick (cough cough, glassy eyes, flush face) but don't tell you....

While the purifier isn't a perfect solution, I see it as an addition to all the other precautions. I also had one patron tell me she uses one at home for allergies, and said it even took care of a dead mouse smell after the critter died under the floor!