

vapor intrusion guidance EPA vapor intrusion

If you have heard of a local gasoline leak or spill and feel that you are completely safe, there are facts that unfortunately contradict that thought; vapor intrusion – the exposure of harmful fumes from oil, gasoline or natural gas leaks – can invade your home through cracks, crawl spaces, and other major areas of your home. Although not an initial threat because it is not instantly detected, vapor intrusion is a huge reason why homeowners, workers, and other businesses get contaminated air, making folks sick and have other major health problems. Use these facts below to educate yourself on vapor intrusion and why having air purifiers would benefit your health and detection of these invisible vapors.

Not only do vapors have a tendency to leak from outside sources such as underground fuel storage tanks, gas stations, and other types of gas lines, you should know that products stored right in your garage or closet can cause vapor intrusion. If you keep paint thinners, acetone, hydrochloric acid or other vapor-emitting chemicals around your house, you are directly exposing yourself and the air you breathe to vapors that can eventually creep up and give you headaches, experience nausea, possible even pass out or – in extreme cases – be susceptible to death. Even if you store your chemicals in a dry, safe place with lids tightly sealed, there is still a decent chance that vapors will still come through your house, threatening the quality of the air you breathe. Understanding this fact will assist you and your family in making sound decisions in terms of storage of these chemicals; you should still, however, consider making sure you have some detection or purifier in place to clean the air from both outside vapor intrusions as well as indoor threats that could occur if gone undetected.

Beginning with your outside soil, underground vapors will absorb through the ground and, over time, will eventually get carried through the air towards any openings around your buildings, houses, vehicles and garage areas. Since concrete expands in heat and bonds in cold weather, your summer months can be especially atrocious with vapor intrusion, especially if your foundation is aged or tends to sweat heavily. The more potent the source of the vapor intrusion, the faster the vapors will begin to affect the breathing and overall quality of life for your family and self. Understanding the area you live in and potential hazards around you is the best initial preventative measure to take in warding off possible vapor intrusion threats.

Another excellent source of vapor intrusion blocking is to install an excellent air purifier that can catch and trap vapor intrusion attacks before they reach your oxygen supply. These air purifiers can be installed in numerous ways, albeit to your current central air unit or as a stand-alone machine. Having protection from harmful and potentially life-threatening vapor intrusions is peace of mind for the parent, the business owner, or simply the elderly couple that may live near large gasoline supplies. Protect yourself from vapor intrusions by understanding the facts, getting your home inspected for possible viable threats, and installing an [air purifier](#) in your home.