



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness

Air Purifier Support During Wildfire Season

Individuals are asked to please contact their community health centre to request support for air purifiers and replacement filters. Requests will then be forwarded to the FNHA.

Public health evidence tells us that certain people are at more at-risk from wildfire smoke.

Due to wildfire smoke in various areas of the province, and a non-sustainable supply of air purifiers, the FNHA will only consider requests for air purifiers and replacement filters from communities to support members with high-risk vulnerabilities for acute exacerbation due to wildfire smoke. This may include:

- asthma
- heart disease or diabetes
- respiratory issues
- babies or infants
- elderly
- pregnancy

Priority will be given to individuals and communities who:

- have limited transportation / mobility and are unable to access a community clean air shelter
- live in a home without a ventilation system that can recirculate air

In certain urgent situations community purchase of air purifiers and replacement filters may be eligible for reimbursement from FNHA when prior approval is obtained from the Regional Health Emergency Management (HEM) Team.

Community Clean Air Shelters Please reach out to your local FNHA Environmental Health Officer (EHO) about guidance for clean air shelters.

Replacement HEPA Filters If you received or purchased HEPA filters previously, ensure they remain in good condition or replace the filters as needed. Other replacement filters are provided by the FNHA aligned with guidelines as above.

NOTE: Instant Brand filters are no longer available – contact your Regional HEM team for further action

DIY Air Purifiers A home-made Do-It-Yourself (DIY) air cleaner with box fans and furnace filters can help improve air quality. [New research](#) has been released showing effectiveness of DIY air purifiers. The FNHA, in partnership with the SFU Breathe team, can offer support with materials for community hosted workshops.

Contact your Regional HEM team for more information.

Regional Health Emergency Management Contacts:

Vancouver Coastal: VC.HEM@FNHA.ca

Vancouver Island: VI.HEM@FNHA.ca

Fraser Salish: FSHEM@FNHA.ca

Interior: IREOC.Ops@FNHA.ca

Northern: NorthernHealthEmergency@FNHA.ca

Visit [BC Centre for Disease Control](#) for more information on air purifiers and wildfire smoke protection.

Visit [FNHA's Wildfire Supports](#) webpage for more information.