

For those interested in air purifier systems - thought I would pass this on . . .

I started using an air purifier in my home a couple of years ago to help counter some allergy problems. It was very helpful and I always thought about getting a unit for my car as well. The air in your car is supposedly the dirtiest around. Since I will shortly be taking up full time RVing, I decided to get a purifier for my Toy house.

I am fortunate enough to know an alternative health care professional that has analyzed the effectiveness of some of the various purifier products on the market. I found a very low cost unit that runs on 12VDC from China, and the price was so good I decided to give it a try.

Manufacturers have taken several approaches to cleaning the air we breathe, one of the more popular being the Negative Ion Generator. Negative ions as you may well know, are claimed to be responsible for that refreshing feeling you get near a waterfall, which is a serious generator of negative ions. Negative ions attract particulates in the air and cause them to clump together. When enough clumping happens, gravity pulls the particulates to the ground. Many of the negative ion based air purifiers on the market circulate the air a bit, thus drawing the particles to a metal collector plate inside the unit - which you get to clean every so often.

Negative ions are primarily what this unit from China uses to do its dirty work. The unit cost only about \$30 or so on Ebay. Compared to a very popular, heavily advertised negative ion product, the Ionic Breeze from Sharper Image, which costs several hundred \$\$, this is a STEAL - if it works. The unit is even cheaper than the less expensive Quadra model from Sharper Image.

The Chinese unit is much smaller than the Ionic Breeze, so it cleans a smaller space - hmmm, like an RV. But it checked out very well against the Ionic Breeze when my doctor tested it. It actually faired better than the Oreck purifier I have at home, which uses a 5-stage filter that does negative ions and other types of filtering.

This of course is "non-scientific" analysis, in the traditional sense of product testing, but I have learned to trust this woman's opinion over the 7 years I have worked with her.

Here is the dope on the purifier if you are interested: 1) The unit is imported OEM from China by a number of companies and then branded accordingly. The key is that all the distributors seem to use a different BRAND name, but the same MODEL NUMBER - **XJ 2000**.

2) I got mine on Ebay for \$30 from a company called NeoTech. They were the cheapest and shipped reliably.

3) A company called Surround Air (surroundair.com) sells them for more money, but they have a great information/comparison chart on their site www.surroundair.com/ionizers.htm. They also claim to be gaining the exclusive right to market the units in the USA and claim to be the only company who will be able to handle warranty claims in the future (I say, for 30 bucks, the darn thing is almost disposable).

Cheers

James
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