# Comfort

# It's not just about **temperature...**



it's about the **quality** of the air inside your home



# Did you know — the indoor air in your home is probably more polluted than outside air?

TODAY WE AS AMERICANS SPEND THE MAJORITY OF OUR TIME INDOORS AND, UNFORTUNATELY, OUR HOMES ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE SAFE HAVENS WE EXPECT. INDOOR AIR POLLUTION HAS BECOME A SERIOUS HEALTH THREAT.

HOMES TODAY ARE TIGHTER THAN EVER BEFORE AS WE SEEK TO CONSERVE ENERGY. INSULATION, STORM DOORS AND TRIPLE-PANE WINDOWS, WEATHERSTRIPPING, VAPOR BARRIERS AND OTHER MEASURES ARE TRAPPING CONTAMINATED AIR INSIDE. IN FACT, SCIENTISTS HAVE SAID THAT TIGHTER CONSTRUCTION MEANS INSIDE AIR CAN BE FOUR OR FIVE TIMES MORE POLLUTED THAN OUTDOOR AIR — AND IN SOME CASES, EVEN MORE CONTAMINATED THAN THAT.

COMMON HOUSEHOLD BIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS ARE MOLD, MILDEW AND DUST MITES, ALTHOUGH SOME VIRUSES AND BACTERIA CAN CIRCULATE THROUGH THE HOME'S VENTILATION SYSTEM, ESPECIALLY IF MOISTURE IS PRESENT.



Mold, mildew and dust mites need two things to grow some kind of nutrient and moisture.

#### **DUST MITES**

These microscopic insects, invisible to the naked eye, live in mattresses, pillows, bedding, carpets, upholstered furniture, even clothing and other items made or covered in fabric. They exist in every home, feeding on skin flakes from humans, but they multiply in the presence of moisture. They can trigger hay fever-like symptoms in people with dust allergies and asthma attacks in asthmatics. Some studies have suggested that exposure to dust mites may cause asthma in children who have not previously shown any signs of the disease.

#### MOLD

Mold spores are present in outside and inside air, but generally don't cause problems indoors unless they begin growing on a damp or wet surface. Once established, spores can float through the air and form new colonies. There are different types of molds: some produce allergens that can cause symptoms such as itchy eyes, sneezing, runny nose, and skin irritations. Molds can also cause asthma attacks in asthmatics who are allergic to mold, and these attacks can be serious, even life-threatening. Certain types of mold produce toxins (mycotoxins) that are potentially harmful if touched or inhaled.

## The key to controlling mold and dust mites is moisture control.

Mold spores must have water or moisture to reproduce and dust mites thrive in moist conditions. By controlling the amount of moisture in your home, you can take the first step in controlling these harmful indoor pollutants.

According to environmental experts, controlling indoor moisture helps you avoid potential health problems, prevents damage to your furnishings and home, and saves money.



WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO KEEP YOUR HOME AT THE RECOMMENDED HUMIDITY LEVEL? INSTALL A **WHOLE HOUSE DEHUMIDIFIER**.

Because the whole house dehumidifier is connected to the central air conditioning system ductwork, it keeps the entire home at the desired humidity level—not just the basement or a single room as with a portable dehumidifier. And you set the humidity level you want using a simple control.

Comfort-Aire's whole house dehumidifier works by sampling the air in the home for 15 minutes every hour. The air passes over a sensor that turns on the compressor if dehumidification is needed. Then both the fan and the compressor run until the relative humidity of the inside air reaches the preset level.

You may find that your air conditioner runs less with the whole house dehumidifier. When the temperature/humidity balance is correct, you may actually feel more comfortable at a higher temperature—and that saves energy!

### A whole house dehumidifier gives you more protection than air conditioning alone.

With today's tighter, more efficient homes, the air conditioner doesn't have to run as often to maintain the temperature. Especially during cloudy or rainy days, or in the evening, the A/C unit may not operate long enough to dehumidify the home adequately.

When the humidity is too high, you don't feel comfortable so you lower the thermostat—but you end up feeling cold and clammy. This occurs because cold air holds less moisture than warm air, so the relative humidity within your house may actually increase although the A/C is running. You often see this in the form of condensation on cool surfaces, creating a breeding ground for mold and mildew.

To reduce indoor air pollution, experts recommend keeping humidity in your home at 50% or less.

Comfort-Aire's whole house dehumidifier automatically starts

when the humidity is above the desired level, so it dehumidifies without overcooling. You set the humidity level that's most comfortable for you—and you don't have to think about it again!

Portable or Whole House Dehumidifier?

Both types are designed to remove moisture from the air, but the whole house dehumidifier, as the name implies, works on the entire home, not just a room or area like a portable. It typically gets results faster than a portable because of its larger capacity and it's also significantly quieter. Finally, you don't have to worry about emptying a condensate bucket with a whole house dehumidifier. WHD-130 improves comfort...protects the home and furnishings from excess moisture...and helps prevent the growth of mold, mildew and other contaminants.



**Quiet Operation**—Typically you won't even know the dehumidifier is working. The cabinet is lined with 1" thick high density, expanded foam insulation that absorbs and reflects sound, keeping most of the unwanted noise from the duct system and living spaces. The compressor is mounted on rubber isolators to prevent vibration, and the entire unit can be placed on rubber feet or suspended using rubber isolators to further reduce sound transmission into the home.

The filter is accessed from either side, so it's easy to remove for cleaning.

**Energy Efficient**—Because drier air is more comfortable, many people raise the temperature setting on their air conditioners when a dehumidifier is installed, reducing the load on the air conditioner and helping extend its life. Reduced running time means money saved.

Fits Any Size Home—The greater the whole house dehumidifier's capacity, the faster the home can be brought to a comfortable level. At up to 130 pints of moisture removed per day, the WHD-130 is effective in virtually every home and in the most humid conditions. Minimal Maintenance—The WHD-130 is built for long life and trouble-free operation. All it needs is a periodic cleaning of the permanent mesh filter to keep the unit operating at peak efficiency.

**Easy Installation**—The WHD-130 can be installed in new construction or in existing homes, in basements, crawl spaces, or attics. Flexible ducts are used to connect the inlet to the A/C return duct and the outlet to the air outlet of the air conditioner. Power is standard 115V.

**Optional Wall-Mounted Control**—The unit comes with self-contained controls, but is easily converted to a control mounted in the living area (similar in appearance to a thermostat) that saves trips to the basement or attic to change the setting.

For a happy, healthy home...talk to your Comfort-Aire dealer about the benefits of installing a whole house dehumidifier. And for even greater comfort and energy savings, also ask about our new super-efficient air conditioning equipment.



1900 Wellworth Ave. Jackson, MI 49203 PH. 517.787.2100

www.comfort-aire.com



The Quality Leader in Conditioning Air

©2007 Heat Controller, Inc. All rights reserved.