SAVE LIVES
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

S A V E
L I V E S

Improve Indoor Air to Prevent COVID-19

Why is ventilation important?

The virus that causes **COVID-19 is carried by tiny droplets in the air** when a person who is infected breaths, talks, sings, shouts, coughs, or sneezes. The virus spreads when these droplets touch a person's eyes, nose, or mouth, or are breathed into the lungs. Ventilation replaces air that contains the virus with cleaner air. **When used with masks and distancing, good ventilation can help control the spread of COVID-19.**

Goals

1. Bring more outside air into your facility.

2. Clean the indoor air.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO CLEAN THE AIR IN YOUR FACILITY:

✓ **Open doors and windows to the outside.** Just a few minutes can make the air cleaner without changing the indoor temperature too much.

✓ Set up fans to **blow air through open windows**. From i*nside the room to the outside.*

✓ **Add a portable HEPA** (high-efficiency particulate air) filter anywhere people are together.

✓ If you have **exhaust fans** in bathrooms or kitchen, turn them on and **leave them running.**

✓ If you have a **HVAC** (Heating, Venting and Air Conditioning) system, turn on fans and **keep them running** all the time at low speed.

Sources:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html

https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/guidance-documents/guide-indoor-ventilation-covid-19-pandemic.html

https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/VentilationGuidance.pdf