

## **Key Points about Air Cleaning**

- Ion generators and electronic air cleaners may produce ozone, particularly if they are not properly installed and maintained. Ozone can be a lung irritant.
- Gases and odors from particles collected by the filtration device, and remain on the filter in the airflow, may be re-dispersed into the air.
- The odor of tobacco smoke is largely due to gases in the smoke, rather than particles. Thus, one may smell a tobacco odor even when the smoke particles have been removed.
- Some devices scent the air to mask odors, which may lead you to believe that the odor-causing pollutants have been removed.
- Ion generators, especially those that do not contain a collector, or that have a dirty collector, can cause soiling of walls and other surfaces.
- Maintenance costs, such as costs for the replacement of filters, may be significant in certain systems.
- Several brands of ozone generators have an establishment number on its packaging. This number helps EPA identify the specific facility that produces the product. To quote the EPA from their website: “The display of this number does not imply an EPA endorsement or suggest in any way that the EPA has found the product to be either safe or effective.”