



Purging/Ventilation Recommendation

The following is the recommended procedure for ventilating a residential building prior to work being performed as part of weatherization. Ventilation of the building will be performed with a blower door and strategically opened windows. With COVID-19 transmission being a concern, the goal is to replace potentially hazardous air with fresh air in order to remove potentially hazardous particles suspended in the air within the structure. This is considered a worker safety issue and is also a show of good faith to the client that we are taking the safety of our workers and the clients seriously.

- Recommend ventilation using depressurization versus pressurization
 - There is a theoretical concern that a pressurization test can re-suspend settled particles in a building by blowing air across surfaces, etc.
- Use appropriate PPE (disposable suit, N-95 mask without valve, gloves, etc.) for house set-up
 - It is not advised to have clients perform the house set-up functions
- Provide the option to the client to leave the home during the purging process
- House set-up
 - Disable combustion appliances like you would for a blower door test
 - Open appropriate windows
 - Completely open windows in the rooms farthest from the blower door
 - Open windows in the basement if functional
 - Proportionately open windows located between the farthest rooms and the room containing the blower door
 - Do not open windows in the room containing the blower door unless cross-ventilation is needed to fully ventilate that room (opening windows too close to the blower door may not fully ventilate the farthest areas of the building)
 - Open interior doors to provide a pathway for the air back to the blower door
- Control fan from outside
 - Set up fan for typical blower door test
 - Use open fan set up – no rings necessary
 - Digital gauge is not required
 - Run fan at full speed using speed controller from the exterior
 - Keep personnel out of the flow of the fan
- Time for fan operation
 - Volume of the house divided by 6,000 = # of minutes (greater than 2,300 sq. ft.)
 - Minimum 3 minutes (less than 2,300 sq. ft.)
- Clean and disinfect all equipment after use

To watch a quick video on this topic, **copy and paste** the below URL into a web browser (use Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, or Firefox as it does not appear to be supported by Internet Explorer) -

https://video.wixstatic.com/video/767769_fe225db858814d78aa8382eaf3bba498/1080p/mp4/file.mp4