

Home Zone: Take a deep breath without sneezing

by Maggie_Reed

Let the air flow in and the allergens stay just where they belong – outside. More than 50 million people in North America are affected by allergies, and almost 55 percent overall suffer from at least one or more airborne allergens.

With PollenTec screens, you can keep the pollens out and the fresh air flowing without having to rub your eyes or blow your nose. Photo courtesy of PollenTec. The only answer, up until now, was to just hole up in the house with the windows closed and the air conditioning or heat on. Not any longer.

PollenTec allows people to fit windows and doors with screens that keep pollens out while letting the breeze blow through.

"My whole family suffers from seasonal allergies," said Paul Honnen, president of Screens Inc., the only distributor of PollenTec in North America.

"One beautiful day in Arizona, I sat inside with the windows closed up and the air conditioner running to prevent the dreaded itchy eyes, runny nose and sneezing from the pollens and allergens in the breeze outside."

Tired of paying \$400 a month for air conditioning bills, he got to wondering if there wasn't something out there that would keep the bad stuff out and let the good stuff in.

"My extensive research led me to a partnership with a 150-year-old specialty textile export company in Europe, and we are now the exclusive distributor for North America," Honnen said.

It was originally designed in 2007 overseas and is just making its way into the North America market.

PollenTec screens look very similar to normal screens, but they are designed with a unique filtering effect that allows fresh air to flow in while keeping up to 100 pollens out. Tested extensively by the European Center for Allergy Research Foundation, PollenTec was found to capture 100 percent of grass pollens, 99.71 percent of birch pollen, 93.1 percent of stinging nettle pollen and 90.9 percent of ragweed. Visit www.pollentec.com/testdata.html for results.

The PollenTec screen material retails for \$10 per square foot. The normal cost of material and framing averages about \$75 for a standard-sized window.

Screen Inc. can even assist homeowners by finding a local screen repair company to help them install the screening in windows and doors. The company is also able to ship a complete screen frame directly to the consumer.

For more information, call 623-780-2400 or visit www.pollentec.com.

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