

PURPLEAIR Sensor INSTALLATION

HOW TO INSTALL AND REGISTER YOUR PURPLE AIR Sensor

From the First Nations Health Authority and the BVLD AMS

PurpleAir creates low cost air quality sensors suitable for outdoor and indoor use. These sensors connect to the internet and are equipped with a laser particle counter to assess particulate matter. These sensors transmit real-time data to the PurpleAir website that is easily accessible. Today we will be looking at how to install and set up an Outdoor PurpleAir sensor. Here is an installation and set-up guide on how to get your PurpleAir sensor up and running.



NOTE: Ensure that you know the Wi-Fi name and password of the facility in which you will be placing your PurpleAir sensor. Also be sure to either make note of or take a photo of the Device ID.

EQUIPMENT



STEP 1 – Choose Location

Choose a location for which you would like to take an air sample. Here are some things to keep in mind when you are deciding:

Inside:

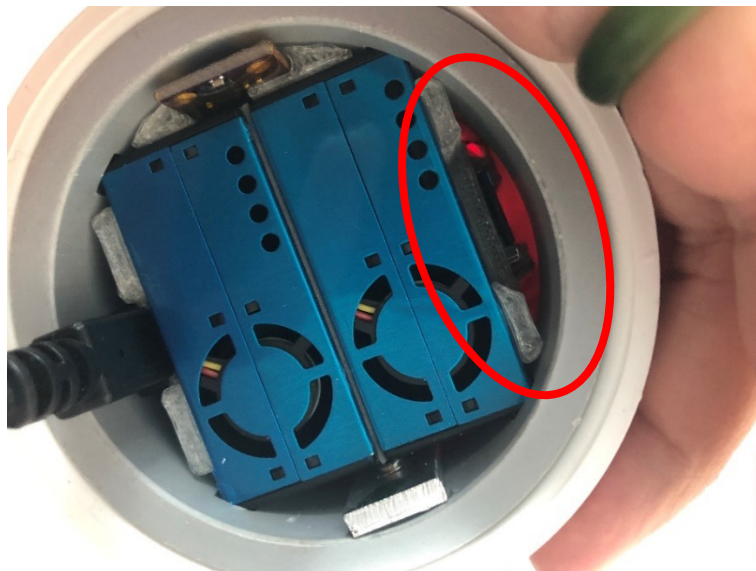
- Just lay on it's side and wedge it so it doesn't roll
- Do not place directly above a heat source
- Try an open area where the air is moving well
- Try it at floor level, kids height, chair/couch height, standing height - upstairs
- Do not place not near an open window, unless you are testing for a incoming particles
- Turn off dryers or extractors fans while running the sensor

Outside:

- If this is a temporary sensor, keep it simple and accessible
- Mount it on a stick and raise and lower the stick
- Select an area that is not too close to roads, smoking areas, stove chimneys, etc.
- Be sure that you can mount the PA sensor in a way that allows for air flow
- Be sure that you can mount the PA sensor in a way that allows the cord to reach an outlet. If this cannot be achieved, you can also utilize an extension cord

STEP 2 – Power up PA Sensor

This is a test run, before you mount your sensor. Plug in your PA sensor – you will know that it is successfully plugged in if a red light shines on the inside of the device.



STEP 3 – Connect Sensor

- Using a device such as a laptop or smart phone, open the devices Wi-Fi Network list. **NOTE:** It may take up to 10 minutes for the PA sensor to appear on the list. We recommend that you plug in your PA sensor for it to warm up. The sensor Wi-Fi should look like this: “PurpleAir-xxxx.”The last 4 digits will be the last 4 digits on the Device ID. Select the PA sensor Wi-Fi – “PurpleAir-xxxx.”
- A pop-up window should appear momentarily – select the facilities Wi-Fi Network and enter the Wi-Fi password. Select Save.
- This will redirect you to another window – the top of this window will say “WiFi Disconnected” in a grey box. Give it a few moments and the grey box should turn orange and now say: “WiFi Connected Checking status: Takes a minute or two.”
- Once the box turns green and says: “WiFi Connected Looking good!” you have successfully installed your PA sensor.



STEP 4 – Register Your Sensor

If this Sensor is from the BVLDM AMS this step will have been completed. If you have bought your own sensor, follow the directions on your screen or contact us for help: coordinator@cleanairplan.ca.

STEP 5 - Mount PA Sensor

If inside

You will mount the PA sensor. Mount the sensor using the screw provided. Secure the screw through the hole in the metal mount on the PA sensor and then into the surface where you pre-drilled a hole.

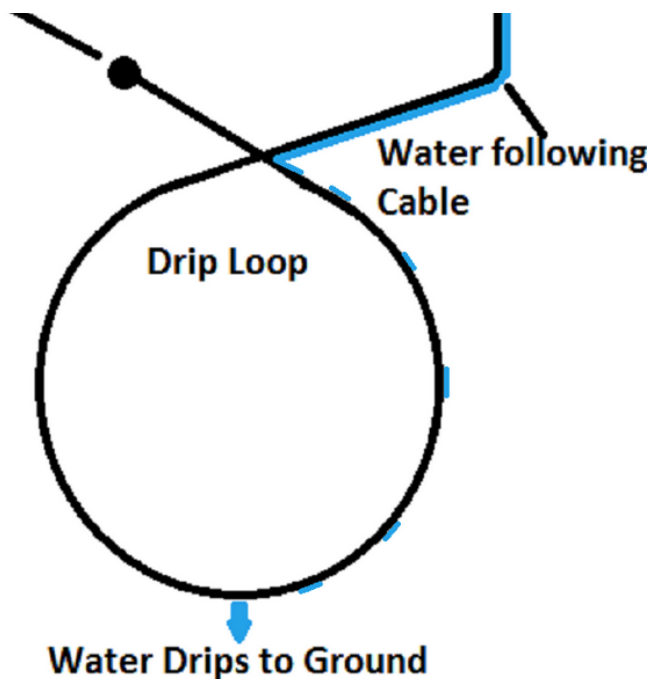
If outside

Once you have chosen a facility, locate an area where:

1. you have a strong, constant wifi connection and
2. you have a constant power supply

You can pre-drill a hole in a surface. This is where you will mount the PA sensor. Mount the sensor using the screw provided. Secure the screw through the hole in the metal mount on the PA sensor and then into the surface where you pre-drilled a hole.

Consider this:



- A drip loop is recommended. Use twist ties or zip straps to put one in the cord between the sensor and the power adapter.
- Plug your outdoor extension cords into a GFCI outlet. These are the outlets that have TEST/RESET buttons – typically found in kitchens, baths, and garages. These protect your family from shock if the cord is exposed to water.
- Make sure your cord is the right length (not too short/long), to prevent tripping hazards. Use zip straps to wrap up excess lengths.
- Look up ways to protect your power cords from rain!
- Make sure your power outlet is not connected to a switch that might get flipped OFF!

Congratulations

YOUR PURPLEAIR Sensor IS NOW INSTALLED.

Links:

For help or issues:

pa@cleanairplan.ca

coordinator@cleanairplan.ca

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/purpleair/?mibextid=6NoCDW>

for the maps:

<https://map.purpleair.com/1/mPM25/a10080/p600/cC0#8.1/55/-127.557>

<https://cyclone.unbc.ca/aqmap/#9/55.1051/-127.1269>

for your understanding of the readings or other info.

cleanairplan.ca/blog, <https://cleanairplan.ca/blog/2022/12/09/hyper-local/>

<https://community.purpleair.com/t/sensor-start-up-guide/182>

cleanairplan.ca

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