

What Am I Smelling?



Blog for Air Justice

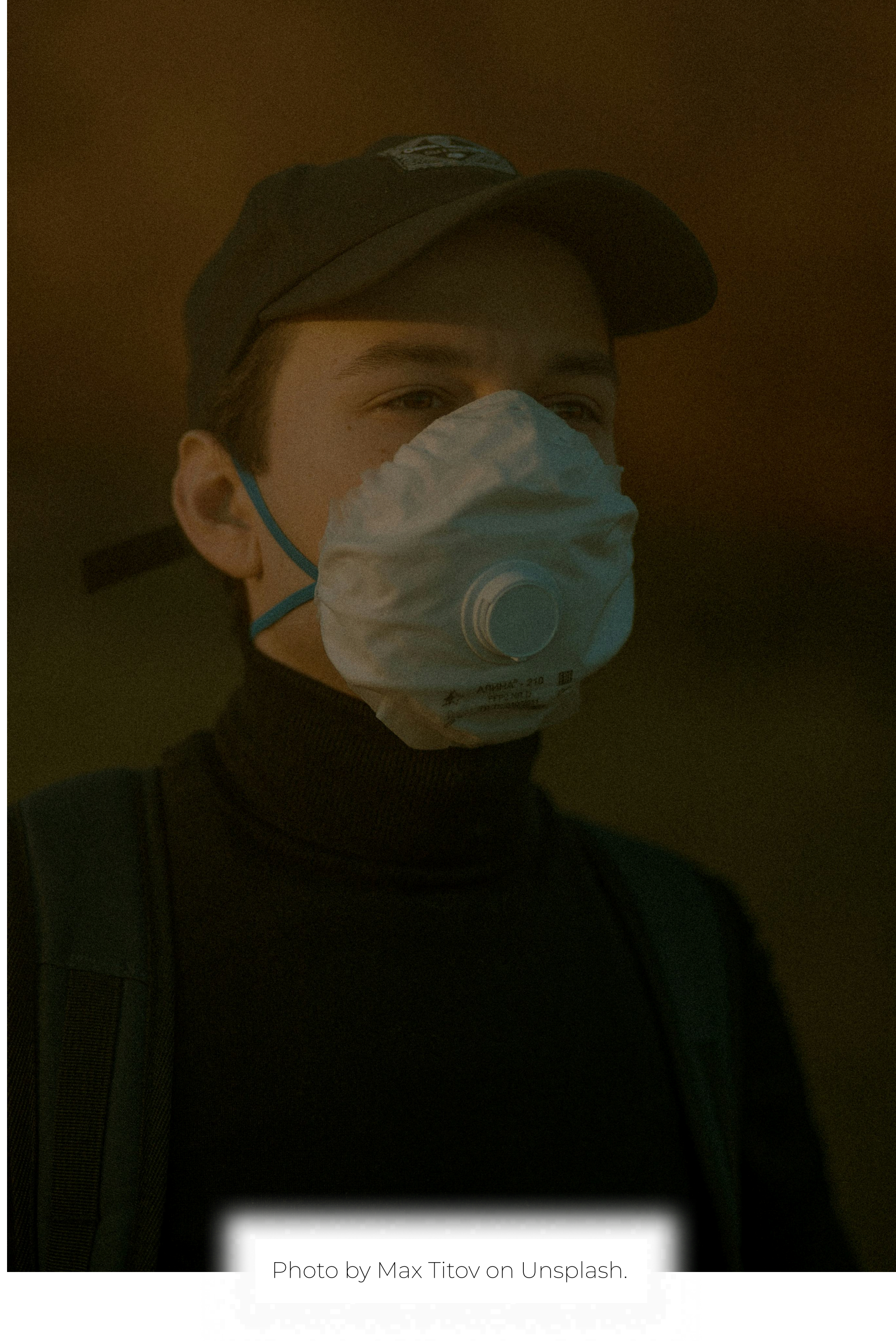


Photo by Max Titov on Unsplash.

Odor by itself is not a reliable determination of health risks. Some air toxins may be odorless. But residents of South and West Louisville can get a good idea of certain chemicals through identifying the following odors in the air.

If it smells *pleasant*, then it could be:

[1,3-Butadiene](#)

[Benzene](#)

[Styrene](#)

If it smells like *rubber*, then it could be:

[1,3-Butadiene](#)

If it smells like *chemicals*, then it could be:

[Acetone](#)



If it smells *sweet*, then it could be:

[Acetone](#)

[Methylene Chloride](#)

[Benzene](#)

[Methyl Ethyl Ketone](#)

[Carbon Tetrachloride](#)

[Styrene](#)

[Chloroform](#)

[Vinyl Chloride](#)

[Chloromethane](#)



If it smells like *strong onions or garlic*, then it could be:

[Acrylonitrile](#)

If it smells like *strong household cleaner*, then it could be:

[Carbon Tetrachloride](#)

If it smells like *carbon*, then it could be:

[Carbon Disulfide](#)

[Methyl Methacrylate](#)

If it smells like *sour or burnt*, then it could be:

[Toluene](#)

If it smells like *acetone*, then it could be:

[Methyl Ethyl Ketone](#)



Photo by Kai Dahms on Unsplash.

If it smells like *gasoline*, then it could be:

[Toluene](#)

For More Information:

According to the US Environmental Protection Agency, the following compounds/chemicals are "Priority Pollutants," which are pollutants known to be very toxic and subject to extensive federal testing and regulations:

- [Acrylonitrile](#)
- [Benzene](#)
- [Carbon Tetrachloride](#)
- [Chloroform](#)
- [Chloromethane](#)
- [Methylene Chloride](#)
- [Toluene](#)
- [Vinyl Chloride](#)