

MOLD REMOVAL AND THE HOME



TO ELIMINATE MOLD FROM THE INDOOR ENVIRONMENT:

1. It is important to remember that mold removal and prevention is very dependant on moisture management. To begin, review possible sources of moisture infiltration through the building envelope. Potential moisture sources can include, but are not limited to: drainage water, including both surface run-off and down-spouts; improper ventilation (i.e. attic); malfunctioning footer drains; basement walls leaks; chronic plumbing leaks or roof leaks; drafty windows allowing condensation to form; etc. The moisture sources must then be eliminated.
2. **Remove porous surfaces which have been contaminated by mold, including visible mold and unseen contaminated surfaces.** (*Note: Mold can be hidden in wall cavities. The problem can often times be greater than originally anticipated.*) Carefully double-bag the contaminated materials and dispose of with the regular trash. Next, properly clean the remaining surfaces which have been contaminated by mold. The cleaning process shall include:
 - a.) Clean with HEPA vacuum.
 - b.) Wipe down wall with light detergent and damp rag.
 - c.) Repeat at least twice.
 - d.) Sanitize with a final rinse of 1 part bleach to 9 parts water.
3. Allow to thoroughly dry by using fans and/or dehumidifiers and by providing good air circulation. All building materials should be dry when completed, including floor, walls, framing, base boards etc. **Caution: Fans should not be used prior to clean-up so that mold spores are not disseminated.**
4. Repair construction materials which were removed. Prime/seal and paint the walls.

Note: If you intend on performing the work yourself, we recommend using the appropriate personal protective equipment, for example: a respirator (using P100 organic vapor/acid gas cartridges), sealed goggles without vent holes, nitrile gloves, and full length clothing. Wash hands thoroughly before resuming other activities, such as eating, drinking, smoking, etc.

WHEN IS A PROFESSIONAL NEEDED?

It is recommended that mold growth covering an area greater than 10 square feet be handled with an appropriate containment set-up (i.e. negative pressure). This may necessitate the use of a professional. If one chooses to have a contractor remove the mold contaminated materials, the following companies have supplied literature to our office. We do not endorse any of the companies and recommend homeowners do appropriate research and obtain references.

Mold Abatement Contractors & Inspectors/Assessors :

Robert Bennett
Farsight Management
6790 Middle Run Road
Dover, OH 44622
(330)602-8338

Brian Sylvester
Sylcom Safety Specialists
1625 Bethel Rd. Suite 202
Columbus, OH 43220
(614)457-4182
www.sylcom-safety-specialists.com

Brian Emler
Ohio Mold
35 Ridgeway Court
Howard, OH 43028
(740)392-4789
www.ohiomoldinspectors.com

Jim Skora
ACRT Environmental
2545 Bailey Rd.
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221
1-866-335-MOLD
www.4mold.com

Eric Schlaubach
Steamatic
3500 State Rd.
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223
(888)502-5326
www.steamatic.com

Rick Kuhlman
HEPA Environmental Services
PO Box 773
Uniontown, OH 44685
(866)366-1896
Rkuhlman@hepa1.net

For more information you can obtain the book: Bioaerosols (1999) by ACGIH or visit their website at www.acgih.org.