

# MOLD DECONTAMINATION & REMEDIATION







Mold is always present indoors. There are thousands of molds in our environment, but the ones that get the most press are *stachybotrys* (commonly referred to as "stachy"), *aspergillus* and *penicillium*. These mold species are most commonly discussed because they are generally associated with chronic wetting of indoor components and have been documented to have a negative impact on human health. Indoor mold concentrations can fluctuate. Molds can be found almost anywhere; they can grow on virtually any organic substance, as long as moisture and oxygen are present. There are molds that can grow on wood, paper, carpet, foods, and insulation. When excessive moisture accumulates in a closed environment, mold growth will often occur, particularly if the moisture problem remains undiscovered or unaddressed. Mold growth can be controlled indoors by controlling moisture indoors. Molds reproduce by making spores that usually cannot be seen without magnification. Mold spores waft through the indoor and outdoor air continually. When mold spores land on a damp spot indoors, they may begin growing and digesting whatever they are growing on in order to survive. Molds gradually destroy the things they grow on.



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Mold is found both indoors and outdoors. Mold can enter your home through open doorways, windows, vents, and heating and air conditioning systems. Mold in the air outside can also attach itself to clothing, shoes, bags, and pets can and be carried indoors.

Mold will grow in places with a lot of moisture, such as around leaks in roofs, windows, or pipes, or where there has been flooding. Mold grows well on paper products, cardboard, ceiling tiles, and wood products. Mold can also grow in dust, paints, wallpaper, insulation, drywall, carpet, fabric, and upholster. Water in your home can come from many sources. Water can enter your home by leaking or by seeping through basement floor. Showers or even cooking can add moisture o the air in your home. The amount of moisture that the air in your home can hold depends on the temperature of the air. As the temperature goes down, the air is able to hold less moisture. This is why, in cold weather, moisture condense on cold surfaces (for example, drops of water form on the inside of a window). This moisture can encourage biological pollutants to grow.



#### **3 ELEMENTS FOR MOLD GROWTH**



**Temperatures** 

Mold doesn't have an allegiance to one specific climate. It prefers temperatures similar to the human body and can grow in both hot and cold areas. Humid and moist areas are the most prone to mold growth.



**Mold Food / Nutrient** 

Most living things release carbon atoms that mold will use as a food source. If the first three requirements for mold growth are met, it will use almost any carbon-containing organism as a food source. Everything from skin cells to wood can supply mold with the necessary nutrients for growth.



Moisture

Moisture is created for a magnitude of reasons and molds will seek it out. From weather and climate conditions to leaky pipes found within the home, complete moisture control is impossible. Areas that trap condensation or water vapor are ideal locations for mold to grow. This can include spaces such as under tarps, in cabinets and behind furniture.



### **INVESTIGATE YOUR HOME!**

The most practical way to find a mold problem is to simply use your eyes and nose to find signs of excess moisture and mold growth. If you see or smell mold, you should assume that a problem exists.



Look for signs of moisture or mold

Mold can have a cottony, velvety, granular or leathery texture

The color of mold can vary from white, gray, brown, black, green or other colors

Mold damage may look like discoloration or staining on the surface of building materials or furnishings

Noticeable mold odors are described as musty or earthly



### Look for signs of water damage or excess moisture

- Water leaks
- Standing water
- Water stains
- Condensation problems

Search behind and underneath furnishings, stored items, and building materials (For example, under carpet and pad, wallpaper, vinyl flooring, sink cabinets, or dry wall)

In 2004, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) found there was sufficient evidence to link indoor exposure to mold with upper respiratory tract symptoms, cough, and wheezing in otherwise healthy people. Mold also was linked to the worsening of asthma symptoms in people who have asthma. Mold was also reported to be linked to hypersensitivity pneumonitis in individuals susceptible to this immunologic condition. This uncommon disease is similar to pneumonia and can develop in susceptible individuals after brief or prolonged exposure to mold. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), "A link between other adverse health effects, such as acute idiopathic pulmonary hemorrhage among infants, memory loss, or lethargy, and molds, including the mold Stachybotrys chartarum (Stachybotrys atra), has not been proven."



Mold and water can show up in many places

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#### HOW WE SOLVE YOUR MOLD ISSUE?

#### **MOLD DECONTAMINATION, REMEDIATION & TREATMENT**

**Decontamination** is the process of cleansing an object or substance to remove contaminants such as micro-organisms or hazardous materials, including chemicals, radioactive substances, and infectious diseases.

Mold decontamination is a process to eliminate all **mold** and **mold** spores in the indoor environment follow the Mold Remediation Protocol.

Remove all mold spores & mildew from surfaces and fixtures.

Removal of contaminated mold infected at materials and wall surfaces.

Decontamination of surfaces and fixtures using IAQ Cleaner.

Air Sterilization Utilizing UVGI System & Ozone Shock Treatment

ULV Misting and Total Flushing of Mold Spores





#### **MOLD DECONTAMINATION PROTOCOL**



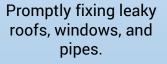


### **CONTROL MOLD IN YOUR HOME**



Controlling humidity levels.







Thoroughly cleaning and drying after flooding.



Ventilating shower, laundry, and cooking areas



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#### **MOLD PREVENTION TIPS**

Keep humidity levels as low as you can—no higher than 50%--all day long. An air conditioner or dehumidifier will help you keep the level low. Bear in mind that humidity levels change over the course of a day with changes in the moisture in the air and the air temperature, so you will need to check the humidity levels more than once a day.

Be sure your home has enough ventilation. Use exhaust fans which vent outside your home in the kitchen and bathroom. Make sure your clothes dryer vents outside your home.

Fix any leaks in your home's roof, walls, or plumbing so mold does not have moisture to grow.

Clean up and dry out your home thoroughly and quickly (within 24-48 hours) after flooding.

Add mold inhibitors to paints before painting.

Clean bathrooms with mold-killing products.

Remove or replace carpets and upholstery that have been soaked and cannot be dried promptly. Consider not using carpet in rooms or areas like bathrooms or basements that may have a lot of moisture.



### **TEST YOUR HOME FOR MOLD – CALL US TODAY!**



## **THANK YOU**



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