

The Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center provides the following guidelines in controlling the growth of mold/mildew in a building.

### **REMEDIATION:**

1. The source of the water problem must first be corrected. All roof, wall, surface or plumbing leaks must be fixed. The affected areas must then be completely dried. The use of dehumidifiers and fans is recommended.
2. Condensation problems need insulation, additional heat, air circulation and/or reduced humidity to prevent mold-causing conditions. Sunlight or increased artificial light will limit mildew growth. Use moisture

barrier material in crawl spaces.

### **CLEAN UP:**

1. All moldy surfaces should be cleaned with a household cleaner that you are comfortable using.
2. Be sure to wear latex or rubber gloves. Open windows for drying and ventilation. Apply the cleaning solution to the surface and leave it for 15 minutes, then thoroughly rinse and dry the surface. Even though the mold is dead, stains can remain. Mold will keep returning until the moisture problem is resolved.

3. Persons with any respiratory health problem (e.g. asthma, emphysema) should NOT perform the cleanup. Keep safety in mind.
4. If the moldy surfaces cannot be cleaned (i.e., wet ceiling tiles), are too damaged, or are disposable (i.e., cardboard boxes), discard and replace with new.
5. Carpets and rugs may have to be discarded if they cannot be thoroughly cleaned and dried within 24-48 hours to prevent further mold growth. Wet insulation should be replaced. Wallboard and paneling that has been damp or wet may have to be replaced.

## Environmental Health Programs

- Air Pollution
- Animal Care and Control
- Food Sanitation
- Individual Sewage Disposal
- Insect, Rodent & Vector Control
- Laboratory Services
- Lakes Management
- Lead Paint Assessment
- Private Water Supplies
- Public Water Supplies
- Recreational Facilities
- Solid Waste Management
- Waste Water

Visit our website at:

<http://www.lakecountyil.gov/151/Environmental-Health>

Environmental Health staff provides services designed to protect the environment and promote proper sanitary practices to Lake County citizens and businesses.

Educational presentations are available on the following:

- Individual Sewage Disposal (ISD) Systems
- Private and Public Water Supplies
- Food Service Protection
- Lakes Management
- Solid Waste
- Lead
- Radon

## GUIDELINES FOR PREVENTING THE GROWTH OF MOLD & MILDEW



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