

Mold a Growing Problem

On an almost daily basis, newspapers, magazines and news shows have some story about the increase in respiratory illnesses in our world. There are reports of the amounts of MOLD found in our homes, our schools, our stores and our offices. It's everywhere! No matter if you live in Florida, Arizona, Nevada, Ontario, Saskatchewan or Nova Scotia, MOLD is becoming a serious health threat because it survives in any climate and in any type of home or building. MOLD is linked to nearly all of the chronic sinus infections affecting over 38 million Canadians and Americans. Some mold can cause serious breathing difficulties, dizziness, flu-like symptoms, memory and hearing loss, and even bleeding in the lungs.

Mold needs moisture to grow and thrive. The growth of mold and its associated illnesses can be prevented if buildings and the air in them are kept clean and dry. Mold needs dampness such as that provided by air conditioners, a roof or water leak and any form of standing water plus high indoor humidity in which to thrive and reproduce. The resulting mold spores can travel through the air by being picked up by the HVAC system and re-circulated. This results in it becoming a serious health threat, particularly to sensitive and allergic individuals.

Any cellulose product like wood, ceiling tile, wallpaper and wallboard becomes a food source for mold once it becomes wet. Mold needs this food source to survive. Without it, mold cannot survive.

To eliminate the illnesses associated with mold, you must prevent mold from growing. You must locate the source of the dampness and eliminate it by keeping the area clean and dry. Because mold spores can travel through the air, it is also important to prevent the spread and growth of mold with the use of an air purifier.

For a quick way to eliminate existing mold growth clean the area thoroughly with bleach such as Swish Brite 5. For a more lasting effect use Swish Miracle which is Ready-To-Use or one of the Swish Quato products properly diluted (Swish Quato 78+ is very effective). Until you eliminate the source of the moisture or the moisture itself, frequent repeat disinfection will be required. Remember that disinfectants require a 10 minute dwell time (remain moist) to perform to their best.

Areas that can be a major breeding ground for mold are:

- HVAC Ducts
- Showers
- Laundry Areas
- Caretaking Closets
- Areas with Indoor Plants
- Washrooms
- Floor Drains

Remember, MOLD thrives on moisture.....eliminate the source and you create a healthier place to work or live.

