



ADDENDUM K
MOLD PREVENTION



Mold (also known as mildew) is found throughout the environment. Many species are commonly found on the skin of healthy people as well as in air and soil. Molds not only cause discoloration and odor problems but also may actually lead to the deterioration of building materials. As long as moisture is present, mold can grow; without moisture, molds cannot reproduce. It is through undiscovered or ignored water problems that these organisms can become a health issue. In some cases, indoor mold may be growing on hidden surfaces (e.g., the backside of dry wall, wallpaper, or paneling, the top of ceiling tiles, the underside of carpets and pads) and thus be less obvious during visual inspection. Hidden mold growth may be suspected if a building smells moldy. Remember these rules and you will help stop mold growth in your residence – **preventing mold begins with you!**

1. Keep your dwelling clean. Vacuuming, mopping, and using a household cleaner will remove the household dirt and debris that encourages mold growth.
2. Immediately throw away moldy food.
3. Remove moisture on windows, walls, ceilings, floors and other surfaces.
4. Use exhaust fans in the bathroom, kitchen, and shower or coat closet.
5. Be sure to keep the shower curtain inside the tub and fully close the shower doors.
6. Wipe moisture off shower walls, shower doors, bathtub, and bathroom floor.
7. Leave bathroom door open to allow moisture to evaporate and bathroom walls and tile surfaces to dry.
8. Hang up your towels and bath mats so they will completely dry out.
9. Promptly notify us in writing about any air conditioning or heating problems, water leaks, or signs of mold. Failure to promptly pay attention to leaks or moisture that may accumulate on dwelling surfaces or that might get inside your ceiling can encourage mold growth.
10. Periodically open windows and doors on days when humidity is below 50% to help your dwelling dry out.

Prolonged moisture buildup can result from a wide variety of sources, such as:

1. Rain leaking from roofs, windows, doors, or walls.
2. Flood waters.
3. Overflows or leaks from showers, bathtubs, toilets, lavatories, sinks, washing machines, dryer discharge vents, dehumidifiers, plumbing lines or fixtures, plants, pet urine, cooking spills, refrigerator or AC drip pans or condensation lines.
4. Insufficient drying of carpets, carpet pads, shower walls, and bathroom floors.

Small areas of mold on non-porous surfaces (such as ceramic tile, formica, vinyl flooring, metal, wood, or plastic) can be cleaned by first using soap (or detergent) and water, then letting the surface dry, and, within 24 hours, applying a pre-mixed, spray-on household cleaner such as Lysol Disinfectant®, Tilex Mildew Remover®, or Clorox Cleanup®. Only a few of the common household cleaners will actually kill mold and dead mold can still produce spores. Tilex® and Clorox® contain bleach which can discolor or stain so be sure to follow the instructions on the container. Do not attempt to clean mold on porous surfaces such as sheetrock or to large areas on non-porous surfaces. In such cases, promptly notify the management in writing of the problem.

If you are concerned that you may be sensitive to mold, it is recommended that you consult your physician. Information regarding mold and mildew can be found at www.cdc.gov or www.epa.gov.

Resident _____

Address _____

Date: _____