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Wayne County Health Department



What you should know about Mold

Mold is in our air all the time. It gets extreme (colonizes) when it has extra moisture, like from a leak. Keeping an eye on the humidity and extra moisture in your rooms is key. You want to target 50% humidity or below.

When an area becomes wet, think of it like a magnet, and the mold spores are metal shavings. Mold spores are drawn to the damp area. It is important to quickly identify leaks and properly address them and dry them out.

Tip: If the paper on your desk is starting to curl, there is too much moisture in your room.

Here are some samples of what mold looks like. It typically has a spotty appearance, like splotchy constellations.



Tip: Bleach does not kill mold. The chlorine content in bleach is only 4-7%, and you need at least 50% chlorine content to do the trick. A much better option is an EPA-approved antimicrobial cleaner. Much safer, and less fumes.

Great food sources for mold are unfinished wood, particle board, drywall, cardboard, paper, dirt, and dust. Another excellent food source is acoustic ceiling tiles; they hold moisture like a sponge, creating a perfect host for mold. Since ceiling tiles are white, it is easy to identify dark water marks on them. If you see a water-damaged tile, there's a leak; properly fix the leak, then remove and replace the ceiling tile.

