

MOLD HOTSPOTS

WHERE TO CHECK FOR MOLD YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Molds have been on the Earth for millions of years. Mold can get in your location through open doors, windows, vents, and heating and air conditioning systems. Mold in the air outside can be brought indoors on clothing, shoes, bags, and even pets.

Mold will grow where there is moisture, such as around leaks in roofs, windows, or pipes, or where there has been a flood. Mold grows on paper, cardboard, ceiling tiles, and wood. Mold can also grow in dust, paints, wallpaper, insulation, drywall, carpet, fabric, and upholstery. Identifying and drying discovered moisture within 48 hours will prevent mold growth.



Pipes and Faucets

Every site located near water is a target for mold, yet a common mistake is to underestimate the risk on seemingly watertight pipes or working faucets. All wet sites should be reviewed regularly for early signs of mold. Leak detection tools can be used to make the job easier, **so manual inspection is the best way to spot leaks early and catch mold before it spreads.**



Any Site Near Previous Leaks

Even when leaks are dried and fixed, water can still soak into areas below and near the leak site. **Floors walls and even subfloors can spur mold growth, and can be easily overlooked after a flood or leak.** These surfaces can be difficult to fully dry, and often require more significant repair. During a leak, invest the effort early to remove and repair every surface where water may have reached.



Employee Areas

The areas your employees use to rest and eat can be just as at risk for mold. **Restrooms, kitchens, and break areas can hide mold if not regularly cleaned.** Treat employee areas like other parts of the facility, and regularly clean and inspect them for leaks and mold. Pay special attention to sinks, toilets, and drains.



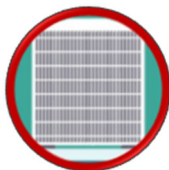
Refrigeration/Freezing Equipment

Refrigeration and freezing sites can be highly at risk for mold. **Power outages or just normal fluctuations in temperature can allow mold to grow on any surface on or near this equipment, making it particularly difficult to treat.** Focus extra attention on this type of equipment and areas nearby, so that mold can be removed quickly when it appears.



Drains and Trays

Drains and trays that sits under equipment do a great job of holding normal water drainage, but also make for ideal site for mold growth. Both are rarely inspected and easily clogged, increasing the chances that mold can grow uninhibited. **More frequent inspections of drains and trays can help you spot leas earlier and address mold before it spreads.**



HVAC Equipment

Air conditioning equipment always introduces a small amount of moisture to your facilities. This moisture can build up anywhere in your ducts, making it hard to detect and can potentially be extremely damaging. **Defeat mold by spotting the signs and systems sooner, or by using dehumidification units to reduce the risk of mold growth.**



Outdoor Areas

Depending on your climate, all outdoor areas are likely to be mold hotspots, with constant moisture, limited regular inspection and plenty of places for mold to hide. **While much of this mold is natural, it can rapidly damage facilities and equipment if left unaddressed for too long.** Mold outdoors can be easily washed away, but will nearly always regrow without repairs or regular maintenance.



Tool Box Talk | Mold Hotspots

This form documents that the training specified above was presented to the listed participants. By signing below, each participant acknowledges receiving this training.

Organization: _____

Trainer: _____ **Trainer's Signature:** _____

Participants:

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