

## News Release:

# What is Mold?

Mold and mildew are biological pollutants that can be found in homes, especially when there have been water leaks, flooding and high humidity levels. Molds are microscopic fungi that grow on organic materials such as paper, textiles, grease, dirt, and soap scum. They can be found everywhere, inside and out. The presence of moisture will determine where molds start to grow. They reproduce by dispersing vast amounts of tiny spores. Mold growing on a piece of bread can release billions of spores into the air.

Some molds produce musty odors, unsightly stains on ceilings and walls, and can create health problems for the people living in the home.

If you see or smell mold growing in your home you need to clean it up or remove it as quickly as possible. Find the moisture problem that created the mold growth, and get it corrected.

To clean small areas of mold, less than 10 square feet, scrub the area with liquid detergent and water. Rinse and dry quickly. To disinfect the area use a chlorine bleach solution of 1 cup of bleach to 1 gallon of water. **Never mix bleach with ammonia.** Let this wet solution on the stain for 15 minutes, rinse and dry.