



MARION COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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MARION COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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I've found my house or basement area covered in mold, how do I clean it up?

- 1) If the material is **non-porous** (it **will not** absorb water) such as a concrete, tile or vinyl flooring, plastic patio furniture, plastic toys, tub surrounds, paneling, molding, etc., use a mild household detergent solution to wipe away the mold.
- 2) If it is a **porous** surface (it **will** absorb water) such as drywall, carpeting, furniture, bedding, clothing, stuffed animals, books, etc., remove, discard, and replace the items or surfaces the mold is growing on.
- 3) It is not necessary to use bleach on mold, unless your intention is to disinfect the surface.
- 4) If you choose to use bleach to disinfect an area or to remove mold stains, follow these guidelines and refer to the Cleaning Mold Checklist.
 1. Clean the surface first and remove all debris.
 2. Provide ventilation with a fan, open window, or door.
 3. Pour ¼ cup of bleach per into one gallon of water and use a spray bottle to spray down the surface. Keep the surface wet for 15 minutes before wiping it down.
 4. Never mix bleach with ammonia or any other cleaners.
 5. Rinse the area with clean water.
 6. Use a fan to dry out the room.
- 5) **KEEP THE AREA DRY!** Maintain humidity levels below 50%. Run a dehumidifier after the area has been clean and the source of the water is gone.
- 6) Any appliances that may have become wet or were under water should be checked by an electrician or service company before plugging them back in and removing them. Remove the filters from furnaces and replace with a new one.

IF IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!