

## DISASTER QUICK TIPS: MOLD PREVENTION CHECKLIST

### Act Quickly to Prevent Mold

Mold growing on building materials and home furnishings is a common hazard after floods. It may cause serious health problems and economic hardship.

Mold can begin to grow within 24 hours on items that contacted floodwater.

To avoid or reduce mold problems, find and fix the conditions that allow mold to grow.

Early action to prevent mold problems can protect health and save money.

### Plan and Track Your Work

Use the top list on the left to decide what should be removed and thrown out.

The lower list shows items that might be saved if cleaned and dried quickly.

*Note: MDH has detailed fact sheets on these topics. See back page.*

### Throw Out

Remove and throw away these items if they are water-soaked:

- ✓ Carpet and pad
- ✓ Linoleum or laminate flooring
- ✓ Sub-floor / underlayment (pressed-wood, plywood, OSB)
- ✓ Drywall, OSB, pressed-wood paneling on walls or ceilings
- ✓ Insulation
- ✓ Upholstered or particle board furniture
- ✓ Ceiling tiles
- ✓ Wall paper, inexpensive wall coverings
- ✓ Paper materials
- ✓ Non-metal materials in ductwork
- ✓ Anything else that has soaked up water

### Keep and Clean

If structurally sound, the following may be cleaned, disinfected and dried:

- ✓ Flooring (stone, tile, vinyl, concrete, wood, rubber)
- ✓ Subfloor/underlayment (concrete or solid wood)
- ✓ Walls (concrete, brick, solid wood, lathe and plaster)
- ✓ Furniture (wood, metal, plastic, glass),
- ✓ Laminated furniture if undamaged
- ✓ Foam insulation
- ✓ Unlined, uninsulated metal ductwork



## MDH Environmental Health Contacts:

### Asbestos

Asbestos and Lead Compliance: 651-201-4620

Web Site: [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/asbestos](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/asbestos)

### Carbon Monoxide and Mold

MDH Indoor Air Quality: 651-201-4601 or 800-798-9050

Email: [health.indoorair@state.mn.us](mailto:health.indoorair@state.mn.us)

Web Site: [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/air](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/air)

### Cleaning Up and Food Safety

MDH Food, Beverage and Lodging: 651-201-4500

Email: [health.foodlodging@state.mn.us](mailto:health.foodlodging@state.mn.us)

Web Site: [www.health.state.mn.us/foodsafety](http://www.health.state.mn.us/foodsafety)

### Drinking Water

#### Public Water

MDH Drinking Water Protection: 651-201-4700

Email: [health.drinkingwater@state.mn.us](mailto:health.drinkingwater@state.mn.us)

Web Site: [www.health.state.mn.us/water](http://www.health.state.mn.us/water)

#### Wells and Well Water

MDH Well Management: 651-201-4600 or 1-800-383-9808

Email: [health.wells@state.mn.us](mailto:health.wells@state.mn.us)

Web Site: [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/wells)

### MDH Environmental Health Division Emergency Program Contacts:

[www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/contactus.htm](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/contactus.htm)

### MDH Environmental Health Flood information Web site:

[www.health.state.mn.us/floods](http://www.health.state.mn.us/floods)

If you require this document in another format such as large print, Braille, or cassette tape, contact 651-201-5000 or 1-800-657-3908. For deaf or hard of hearing TTY: 651-201-5797



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