

After the Storm- Mold and Moisture Cleanup

A Guide for Your Safety

Step 1
Is it safe for me to engage in cleanup?

Assess your health risk * see reverse side		
None Known	Some Risk	High Risk
Okay to work all sizes of cleanup and dust generation	Okay to work small and medium size mold contamination with minimal dust generation	Do not engage in cleanup Do not occupy structure during cleanup
Health Risk Color ●	Health Risk Color ●	Health Risk Color ●

Once you assess your health risk color, follow the color through down the page to determine safe work practices for you

Step 2
What types of environments can I safely work in?

Assess size of mold contamination ** see reverse side		
● or ● Small Less than 10 square feet About the size of a dining table for 6	● or ● Medium 10-100 square feet About the size of one side of a panel truck	● Large Greater than 100 square feet Child's bedroom or small office floor

Assess dust generation			
● or ● None Ex. observing from outside damaged area No Controls	● or ● Minimal Ex. inspecting; wet wiping; recovering moldy personal items Level 1 work practices	● Moderate Ex. sweeping, removing moldy building materials Level 2 work practices	● Severe Ex. Demolishing building materials; using power tools Level 3 work practices

Step 3
What safe work practices should I use?

Use appropriate work practices			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Work Area Preparation	Remove occupants from work area AND adjacent areas Remove sensitive occupants Seal vent ducts/ grills with plastic sheeting Open windows or use exhaust	Remove occupants from work area AND adjacent areas Remove sensitive occupants Seal vent ducts/ grills with plastic sheeting Exhaust air from work area to outside through HEPA filter. Construct airlock and decontamination chamber.	Remove occupants from work area AND adjacent areas Remove sensitive occupants Seal vent ducts/ grills with plastic sheeting Exhaust air from work area to outside through HEPA filter. Construct airlock and decontamination chamber.
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	N, R or P-95 Respirator (minimum)	Long Sleeve Gloves Unvented Goggles Disposable Coveralls with hood and booties	Full-face elastomeric air purifying or powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR) with P100 cartridges . Full-face elastomeric and PAPR respirator cartridges can be reused Elastomeric and PAPR face pieces are to be washed in mild detergent and warm water, dried and reused When not in use, respirators are to be placed in a sealed plastic bag
Work Practices	Respirator medical clearance and fit test (OSHA requirement for employees) Respirator user seal check Mist area with soapy water Minimize dust generation Put debris in plastic bag Seal bag and remove outdoors HEPA vacuum dust Wet wipe surfaces or wipe with microfiber cloth Dry area with fan Do not eat, drink or smoke in work area		
PPE Handling	Order of Removal 1st: coveralls, 2nd: gloves, 3rd: goggles, 4th: respirator Location of Removal At the worksite, preferably outdoors Reuse and Disposal Disposable coveralls and disposable respirators are to be discarded after use Goggles and gloves may be washed with mild detergent and warm water, dried and reused Full-face elastomeric and PAPR respirator cartridges can be reused Elastomeric and PAPR face pieces are to be washed in mild detergent and warm water, dried and reused When not in use, respirators are to be placed in a sealed plastic bag		
Personal Hygiene	Wash entire body thoroughly (including hair, scalp and nails)		

*We suggest that individuals determine their individual health risk in conjunction with their health provider well in advance of a severe weather event. Considerations include cardiac and respiratory status, allergies, age and immune response status.

General guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for determining health risk and for selecting personal protective equipment - *Population-Specific Recommendations for Protection From Exposure to Mold in Flooded Buildings by Specific Activity and Risk Factor*- can be accessed at http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/mold/report/pdf/2005_moldtable5.pdf. This chart provides population based criteria that would be helpful to health providers and individuals in discussions about personal health risks.

** This flow chart provides guidance for workers, volunteers, and residents faced with cleaning up homes and buildings after flooding from severe storms. For general guidance on mold contamination please refer to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Guidelines on Assessment and Remediation of Fungi in Indoor Environments (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/environmental/moldrpt1.shtml>), the Environmental Protection Agency's A Brief Guide to Mold, Moisture, and Your Home (<http://www.epa.gov/mold/cleanupguidelines.html>), and the Environmental Protection Agency's Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings (http://www.epa.gov/mold/mold_remediation.html).

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August 6, 2015**

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This diagram was developed as part of a project funded under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Hurricane Sandy Cooperative Agreement 1U01OH010627-01. This diagram is solely the responsibility of the project faculty and staff and does not necessarily represent the official views of NIOSH.