

What is Mold?

Molds are microscopic organisms that are found virtually everywhere, both indoors and outdoors as part of the natural environment. Mold spores are very tiny and lightweight. They are in the air you breathe and are found on all surfaces. They are typically only visible when clustered in a group. Mold will begin to grow when the spores land on a surface that promotes growth. Mold needs three things to grow: a wet or damp environment, a food source and temperatures similar to what humans live in.

What to do if You Have Mold or Mildew in Your Apartment

1. Clean affected areas with soap and water or a vinegar and water solution (one-part vinegar to one-part water).

Allow the solution to soak for five to ten minutes and then wipe clean with a microfiber cloth.

2. Clean problem areas weekly.
3. If you clean up the mold but don't resolve the moisture problem the mold will grow back.
4. Inoperable exhaust fans, dripping faucets, leaking plumbing etc. should be reported immediately. Create a Maintenance Request through the Resident Portal.
5. If you are unable to control mold after following these guidelines please create a Maintenance Request through the Resident Portal.

Mold has the potential to cause health problems. For more detailed information consult a health professional.

How to Prevent Mold and Mildew

Mold growth can be prevented by controlling moisture. Condensation on your windows or surfaces is a warning sign of excess humidity.

The following things should be avoided or kept to a minimum to reduce the moisture in your apartment:

- Lengthy showers or baths
- Line drying clothes in apartment
- Use of humidifier
- Excessive number of house plants
- Blocking or restricting airflow from your vents
- Standing water in sinks

Other suggestions and solutions to reduce moisture and mold are:

- Use the bathroom and kitchen exhaust fans to reduce moisture produced during cooking, washing dishes, bathing, showering, mopping floors etc.
- Open window in kitchen or bathroom.
- Properly vent clothes dryers outside.
- Clean your apartment regularly including wiping down the walls and vacuuming.
- Regularly check the plumbing in your apartment.