

3 Things that Can Cause Summertime Mold and Our Top Tips to Prevent it

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By Brandon Swenson



Summertime: lemonade, swimming pools, and...mold? If you've found it, you're not alone. **Many homeowners find they have a problem with mold in the warmth of summer.** If mold is a problem in your home, the **professional mold removal specialists at Utah Flood Cleanup can help today.** Below are some things to keep in mind that can cause mold in the summer.

Mold-Makers: Three Things to Watch

1. Sprinklers

How does the earth slope: down and away from your home's foundation? That **outward downslope helpfully drains rain away from your foundation.** Otherwise, **be sure no water is pooling up**, particularly from sprinklers. Should water collect around the home's foundation or seep into the **basement, you could discover substantial mold growth.**

2. Leaky Swamp Coolers

Evaporative coolers—called swamp coolers—offer an eco-friendly, low-cost alternative to central AC. Swamp coolers work best when circulating air from an open window; this circulation makes for fresher air than traditional air conditioning, which requires an airtight room. **Evaporative cooling, though, naturally humidifies dry air.** And **the coolers typically develop rust spots**—check for them—that **can eventually leak and cause mold.** *Molds can grow on the cooler pads*, so check for that too.

3. Blocked Gutters; Leaky Downspouts

Be sure your downspouts are taking water away from the house (you may need extensions).

Also, Have the landscaper **clear your gutters of foliage**.

Top Tips for Summer Mold Prevention

- **Be Sure Your Air Conditioner's Cooling Capacity isn't Too High**

This one surprises people. An **oversized air conditioning unit can result in poor dehumidification**. **Avoid having the air cool so quickly that the system shuts off before the air is well dehumidified**. Is your indoor humidity approaching or more than 60%? Then your AC isn't properly dehumidifying the air. You can **buy a hygrometer to monitor indoor humidity**, then can take steps if needed to reduce moisture and prevent mold growth.

- **Cool Your Home During the Summer Heat**

Mold flourishes at 77 degrees Fahrenheit and up.

- **Keep Your Bathrooms Dry**

Don't install carpeting in the bathrooms. Small throw rugs are better as they don't retain much moisture, and they're easily washed and dried. **Turn on the exhaust fan or open the window slightly when taking a bath or shower, to keep the steam from humidifying your home**.

- **Use Your Exhaust Fans**

Actually, do this all year. Like showering, cooking can produce humidity. **Run your stovetop fan to release extra humidity outside**. **Be sure your clothes dryer exhaust air also goes outside the house**.

- **Keep Your Basement and Attic Free of Clutter Such as Cardboard, Fabrics, and Newspapers**

Any dampness on these materials will form a perfect base for mold.

- **Deal with Any Visible Mold or Musty Smells Promptly**

Neglected mold issues will spread. **If you can't see mold, but can detect a musty smell, mold might be growing behind walls or under the carpeting**. It needs professional attention now, before it gets worse.

- **Fix Any Leaks or Wet Spots in the Home Upon Discovering Them**

It's simple: **moisture leads to mold and mildew problems**. Within 24 to 48 hours after an enclosed area gets wet, mold can take hold.

Why Mold Remediation Is Important

Mold is a health hazard. **Black mold** worsens the [symptoms of allergies](#). Mycotoxins emitted by mold can, in some people, **create serious—even incurable—illnesses**. And in summer, people with respiratory issues might experience a worsening of the symptoms, because of mold spores.

Summer Mold Removal with Utah Flood Cleanup

If you've discovered indoor mold in your [home](#) or [business](#), **contact our mold remediation professionals** at [Utah Flood Cleanup](#) today. We have extensive experience in **safe mold remediation** and are **Utah's #1 disaster cleanup company**.

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