

How to Recognize the Signs of Mold in a Commercial Building

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Mold spores exist everywhere in our environment and having mold in your commercial building is a fairly common occurrence. However, it is important to recognize the symptoms of mold growth that may indicate you have a mold problem that needs to be addressed.

You may think that since you do not see mold, there is no problem, unfortunately, high levels of mold can be present and can begin causing health issues before you discover evidence of its growth. That is why it is important that if you have symptoms of mold growth, you have them evaluated immediately to not only minimize the damage but protect your employees' health as well.

Signs That You May Have a Mold Problem

It is always important to be on the lookout for possible signs of mold, as *early detection is important*.

Some of the signs of a mold problem include:

A Strange Musty Odor

Mold growth is often hidden by wallpaper, tiles, or other flooring and therefore the smell may be your only way to identify it. Mold will have a very strong musty smell that is usually stronger around the area where mold is hiding. ***If you notice an odor and cannot identify the source it is possibly mold and you should call for an inspection.***

Health Problems

Since mold is often hidden, your first signs may be health issues experienced by you and your employees. These type of symptoms are collectively known as **sick building syndrome, which is where multiple people will experience a range of acute symptoms that appear to increase or begin when being in the building.**

Some of the symptoms associated with mold problems include:

- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Fatigue
- Increase in Allergy Symptoms
- Headaches
- Asthma Complications

Sick building syndrome combined with a musty odor is typically a red flag that there is a mold problem present and should be investigated immediately.

Visible Mold or Mildew

It is important to be on the lookout for any visible mold or patches or mildew. ***While mold can occur anywhere in the building, there are common places that it likes to hide.***

To check your building for mold you will want to inspect:

- Window Sills
- Ceiling Corners
- HVAC Drip Pans
- Wall Switch Plates
- Tile Grout
- Wall Paper Seams
- Anywhere There has Been Water Damage or Leaks

Checking for mildew can be a little more difficult as it has a lighter texture than mold. ***The texture of mildew is often white and powder-like on commercial buildings. If you notice any white powder on the floors or furniture it should be further inspected.***

Water Stains

You will want to investigate any *stains on carpets that seem to spread, dark spots on walls and ceiling tiles, and areas on wallpaper where there appears to be bubbling present.* **Most often mold is associated with consistent water damage that often occurs from roof leaks or leaking pipes. If you have any of these problems in your building they should be repaired and the water damage should be professionally cleaned to prevent the growth of mold.**

If your building has had a flood or severe water damage in the past you should notify your inspector as this may help the to determine the root of the mold problem more quickly.

Contact a Professional Mold Remediation Specialist

While mold may be very dangerous to your building and your health, ***proper steps can be taken to clean up the mold and make your workplace healthy for you and your employees to return.***

Steps involved in the remediation process:

1. Visual inspection to check for any dampness on walls, floors, or ceilings
2. Laboratory testing of mold samples and air quality check
3. Mold type determination
4. Removal of mold contaminated items
5. Disinfection of the area
6. Final inspection

*If you suspect your commercial or office building has mold damage, **let our mold remediation specialists at Utah Flood Cleanup** help determine the source of your problem as well as the best course of action. We offer **free inspections for water damage incidents that are covered by your insurance** and our **cleanup services are available 24/7!** Along with mold removal, we offer many other services including fire and water damage repair. Dont wait to get your property back to normal! **Get fast results with Utah Flood Cleanup today by calling us at (801) 416-2666 for a free assessment.***

[What to Do if Mold is Discovered in Your Commercial Building How to Determine if Mold is Dangerous](#)