



## CITY OF BOULDER

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### Post-flood Mold Information and Resources

If you are concerned about mold in your home or workplace, the City of Boulder is here to help. Read on for more information about detection, mitigation and other resources available to you.

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), mildew and mold could develop within a home or building 24 to 48 hours after water exposure. For most healthy people, exposure to mold, including black mold, may only cause a mild allergic response, such as a cough, runny nose and eye irritation (hay fever). For children and individuals with health complications, exposure to mold can cause more serious health problems. In order to prevent mold, it is essential to remove all wet items and building materials from the flooded area, such as drywall, carpet, carpet padding, furniture, damp boxes and anything that became wet from the flooding. After removing these items, the next step is to assess the mold or mildew and work to mitigate its current and future impacts.

**Please contact FEMA if you have been affected by the flood.** To register with FEMA, visit <http://www.disasterassistance.gov/>. To talk with FEMA, call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or visit 5495 Arapahoe Ave. You have until Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> to file a report.

#### **Detection**

Home test kits to test for mold and mildew are available at hardware stores, but require precise usage and results can take up to 48 hours. If the area impacted is greater than 100 square feet, you will need to hire a professional contractor. The city's building inspectors do not assess the presence of mold or mildew; however, they are available to perform other flood related inspections. You can schedule an inspection by calling 303-441-1880 and an inspector will gladly help you assess the flood damage and offer suggestions on how to mitigate impact.

For mold detection and mitigation concerns, there are several **Indoor Air Quality Consultants** who can help determine the presence of mold and extent of the problem. The Boulder County Public Health department provides a list of Indoor Air Quality Consultants on its website, <http://www.bouldercounty.org/doc/publichealth/fliaqconsult.pdf>, as well as a fact sheet about health effects and how to detect and prevent mold and mildew in your home: <https://bouldercolorado.gov/links/fetch/18647>

#### **Mitigation**

Once mold has been detected, it is essential to follow proper mitigation procedures (<http://tinyurl.com/qb6ufyv>) and follow recommended clean-up precautions (<http://tinyurl.com/npoh8pu>).

There are City of Boulder licensed contractors listed on the city's website (<http://tinyurl.com/ltac42a>) who are able to perform mitigation work, as well as several restoration companies (<http://ow.ly/pF1Oh>) able to aid in cleanup and mitigation. Please be sure to check references before hiring a contractor.

In an effort to ensure the health and safety of building occupants, the city is offering flood restoration and repair permits for no fee. A permit and inspection are required for repairs to electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems, but is not required for simple drywall repairs or carpet replacements. For those who did not attain a permit prior to repair and who would still like to have an inspection, please visit Planning and Development Services Center (P&DS Center) to obtain a permit and schedule an inspection. "After the fact permits" are also free of charge. Download, print and fill out the 2013 Flood Recovery, Restoration and Repair Permit (<http://bouldercolorado.gov/links/fetch/18470>) form before applying in-person at the P&DS Center. If you have questions about permitting, visit the P&DS desk at the P&DS Center, 1739 Broadway, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday (opens at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays), visit the P&DS website ([www.boulderplandevlop.net](http://www.boulderplandevlop.net)) or call 303-441-1880.

Boulder County Public Health recommends landlords document remediation efforts taken on a property. This documentation can be found on their website (<http://tinyurl.com/kox6kqo>).

### **Other City & County Resources**

The City of Boulder Community Mediation Service (<https://bouldercolorado.gov/child-youth-family/mediation-program>) assists in resolving disputes for City of Boulder residents, and offers comprehensive post-flood information for landlords and tenants in this video:  
<http://tinyurl.com/lmilmwf>

Boulder County Public Health (BCPH) works to protect, promote, and enhance the health and well-being of all people and the environment in Boulder County.  
<http://www.bouldercounty.org/flood/health/pages/flair.aspx>

EnergySmart is available to residents and businesses that are in the process of making repairs and remodeling. Factoring in energy efficiency when making improvements or purchasing equipment can enhance comfort and decrease long term costs. EnergySmart Advisors provide guidance for replacing insulation in the basement, crawlspace and attic, as well as repairing or replacing furnaces, hot water heaters, duct systems, washers, other appliances and rebates may be available. [www.energysmartyes.com](http://www.energysmartyes.com)

### **Other Organizations & Resources**

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) works 24/7 with state and local health departments to save lives and safeguard communities from public health threats. Click here for more information about mold after a disaster: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/mold/>

The Colorado Health Emergency Line for Public Information (COHELP) is a public support service sponsored by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to keep you informed on current public health or bioterrorism issues. <http://www.cohelp.us/>

FEMA offers a resource available to dealing with flood damage in your home. Click here for a brochure with more information about mold:  
[http://www.fema.gov/pdf/rebuild/recover/fema\\_mold\\_brochure\\_english.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/pdf/rebuild/recover/fema_mold_brochure_english.pdf)

Resources are available for University of Colorado students who live off-campus by visiting CU's [Off-Campus Housing & Neighborhood Relations website](#).

Colorado Flood Legal Relief program offers free legal assistance for Colorado flood victims:  
<http://colofloodlegalrelief.org/>