

### **Mould Removal Fact Sheet**

Mould in homes on the Sunshine Coast is a common problem due to our climate being hot and humid. It will be exacerbated after long periods of rain.

Wardrobes, walls, ceilings, curtains and furniture are the most common victims. The oil in enamel paint will attract mould and it may grow here before other areas.

Natural humidity combined with the steam and moisture created by cooking, showering, bathing and washing can result in mould. Mould can be a source of allergies particularly for asthma sufferers so it is important to control it in your home.

#### **What causes mould?**

- Lack of light
- Lack of ventilation
- Excess moisture

#### **How can I prevent it?**

1. Improve the amount of light by leaving curtains and blinds open if possible.
2. Improve the ventilation by turning fans on, using air conditioners if available or using pedestal fans. If you are home leave windows and doors open to encourage a breeze through the property.
3. In time of heavy rain open cupboards and leave them open to encourage air movement.
4. Wipe excess moisture down if condensation appears after showering or using the dryer.
5. Utilise moisture absorbing products such as Hippos or Camels that can be purchased at supermarkets.
6. Wipe down surfaces with mould cleaning products available at supermarkets after reading the directions and checking surfaces for colour fastness.

Living on the Sunshine Coast can mean that you will need to be more vigilant in controlling mould than other areas. Some properties will be more susceptible depending on their position in the building, which direction they face and where the windows and doors are situated.

In the majority of cases mould is a natural consequence that is the tenant's responsibility to address the same as dirt and dust. In cases of severe sudden onset of mould in one small area this may be the result of a water leak and our office should be notified of this and if necessary rectification work will be carried out.