

Dear Environmental Health Professional,

Often, residents with mold issues or mold-related questions first contact their local health department. To ensure that local health departments have the most up-to-date information, we encourage your staff to look at the fact sheet "Common Questions and Answers About Indoor Mold" at:

[http://www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/factsheets/mold\\_ga\\_fs.htm](http://www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/factsheets/mold_ga_fs.htm)

We have found that this information is able to answer most citizen inquires about mold and health.

Also available to your staff is mold-related information for public health professionals on the public health intranet:

<http://intra.idph.il/NR/rdonlyres/erbo4jqgtbpgftjcrthzz4psizwn7uhjnl7kr u5s2mp2i63nf4b32a25hute3roakjjrc5g74ih54h/MoldMemoforLHDsforPost2.pdf>

Just this past year, we created a Healthy Schools website that addresses indoor environmental issues in education:

<http://app.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/healthyschools/>

To counter misinformation that sometimes circulates in the public health profession:

- 1) IDPH does not have enforcement authority for mold.
- 2) IDPH does not conduct residential mold investigations, unless requested by a physician regarding specific indoor environmental exposure.
- 3) IDPH does not advocate sampling for mold. Time and money is better spent fixing the moisture problem and cleaning or replacing water-damaged building materials.
- 4) IDPH has no role in landlord-tenant disputes. Tenants can be provided with the attached information for legal assistance.

We hope this information is useful as you respond to mold-related inquiries.

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