

MOLD IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Molds are part of the natural environment. Molds may begin growing indoors when mold spores land on wet or damp surfaces.

Molds produce allergens, but like any other allergen, exposed individuals will respond differently. Some may have no reaction, while others may experience hay-fever type symptoms or more severe symptoms. If you are having symptoms you believe may be the result of mold allergens, make an appointment with Student Health for an examination.

It is impossible to get rid of all mold and mold spores indoors (from EPA – [A Brief Guide to Mold, Moisture and Your Home](#))

Generally, it is not necessary to identify the species of mold growing in an area, and CDC does not recommend routine sampling for molds.

WFU has a [Mold Management Plan](#) for identifying and treating areas of potential mold growth.

WFU Facilities and Campus Services will treat any area of mold less than 10 square feet. If greater than 10 square feet, WFU will hire an outside contractor to remediate the area. This is based on recommendations from the CDC and EPA.

Moisture sources may include leaking pipes, standing water, damp clothing or towels, or condensation in the air.

To help prevent mold growth:

- Do not open windows while heating or cooling units are operating. This will cause condensation and may contribute to mold growth.
- Do not leave wet or damp clothes, towels or shoes in closets. Set them out on a drying rack until completely dry.
- Do not place potted plants or any other source of moisture on or around heating and cooling units.
- If you see mold, immediately call Residence Life and Housing or Facilities and Campus Services to have the area treated.