



Guidelines to Help Prevent Mold and Mildew

Many campus buildings have undergone recent HVAC improvements to increase energy efficiency. A change in building ventilation can result in condensation which may lead to mold growing. **The best way to control mold growth is to control moisture.** These guidelines will help prevent condensation, mildew, and mold growth in your room.

Moisture control: Control moisture to prevent mold and mildew growth.

- Avoid drying wet clothes in your room.
- Avoid long hot showers to reduce humidity and steam.
- Limit use of humidifiers, hot water pots, and other steam generating devices.
- Report any leaks or spills promptly to Facilities.

Ventilation: Proper ventilation helps remove moisture and prevent condensation.

- Do not block air vents.
- Store items with air space around them and away from walls.
- Open windows when weather permits, especially when the room feels “stuffy”.
- During cold weather, open windows less than two inches for ventilation. Always close windows if the room gets cold and when leaving the room.
- Use an air purifier.

Cleaning: Regular cleaning can help remove mold spores and prevent their growth.

- Clean bathrooms regularly with provided disinfectant cleaner.
- Wipe away damp or wet surfaces, such as around windows and sinks.
- Wash and dry towels and bedding regularly.
- Empty trash and recycling often.
- Report (to Facilities) suspected mold growth immediately.

When excessive moisture accumulates inside buildings, mold growth can occur, particularly if the moisture problem remains undiscovered or unaddressed. If you see condensation or suspect mildew or mold, please submit a [Facilities Work Request](#) to have the area inspected and cleaned. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Facilities at x4133 or email facilities_services@carleton.edu.