

MOLD PREVENTION TIPS

Some homes damaged by wildfires end up with excess water that needs to be removed to prevent mold growth. Always check with your insurance adjuster before completing any work on your damaged home.

- Call your insurance company and restoration contractor if you see or smell mold inside your home.
- When you are trying to decide what to keep or to throw away, be safe and always remember: “When in doubt, throw it out.”
- Dry all wet items as soon as possible. Wet or waterlogged carpeting should be dried as quickly as possible, and any underlay should be removed. Steam clean carpets with disinfectant.
- Contact your insurance provider if you are unsure about the choice to clean your refrigerator/freezer or dispose of it.
- Check surfaces and appliances for water damage and mold growth. Clean and disinfect with a 1:10 parts household bleach to water solution (2 tsp. bleach in 750 ml water or 1 capful bleach in 1 gallon water). **ONLY USE BLEACH IF IT IS SAFE TO DO SO – NEVER USE BLEACH IN THE PRESENCE OF FIRE RETARDANTS.**
- Get air moving inside your house by opening windows and using a fan to circulate the inside air.
- Try to use a dehumidifier to reduce excess moisture from the air and flooring inside your home.
- Remove stained rugs, curtains and soft furniture for thorough cleaning.