

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin

Moisture

Household Chemicals

Traditional Smoke (Sage/Cedar)

Wood Burning

Examples of Issues Seen During IAQ Assessments

pests

Asthma

Recreational Smoke (Cigarettes)

Mold

Lead

Pet Dander



Dryer Vent Issues

- Too many angles or not connected
- Lint can build up causing excess moisture
- Fire Danger!!!



Pests

- Dander
- Dried Feces
- Carcasses
 - Particles can become suspended in the air and cause havoc to airways and lungs
 - People who are allergic or with asthma are most susceptible



Mold

- Can Produce Allergen Symptoms
 - Itchy Eyes, Nose, Throat
 - Sneezing
 - Runny or Stuffy Nose
 - Cough and Postnasal Drip
 - Watery Eyes

Mild → **Severe**



More
Mold



Excess Moisture / Leaks

- Causes structural damage
- Leads to mold growth
- Rots wood

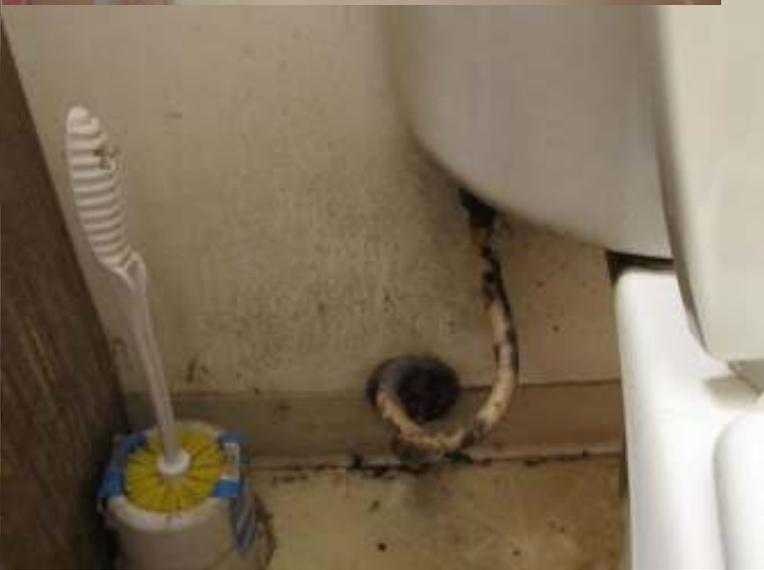


Clutter

- Lack of cleanliness is a pest's best friend
- Dampness can exist in areas not kept clean, especially fabrics in basements, promoting mold growth



Lack of
General
Cleanliness



ST. CROIX ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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October 8, 2013



On October 7th, I visited the house of [REDACTED] in the Emerald Lake Community [REDACTED], to perform an indoor air quality assessment as requested by the resident. The house is a HUD house. It is a single level house with a full basement. Currently there are two adult residents and 1 child. The conditions outside of the house on the day of the test were 51° F, cloudy with relatively no wind. The resident does not smoke in the house.

Overall the house was kept very clean. There were a few issues that were found mainly in the basement. A new sump pump is needed. The insulation all around the basement is missing throughout and needs to be removed and replaced. There was noticeable mold on the stairway leading up from the basement, as well as around the wood stored on the floor. It is recommended to test the sump pump to make sure it works properly. The basement is the main source of issues in this house and needs to be taken care of as soon as possible due to the respiratory problems that the child in the house is having. At some point in time the duct work under the upstairs bathroom filled with water from a leak or overflow, the duct work needs to be repaired and the subfloor should be inspected.



Sample Report

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The outside of the house needs major grade work and fill around the foundation of the house. There are noticeable places that standing water has remained from the lack of gradient away from the house. The wood chute location needs to be filled in as well to hopefully help water drain away and not continue to be a leak issue.



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Additional comments: The resident keeps no pets inside, and reported no pest problems. Certainly there is not a dryer, please be sure this is vented properly when installed with hose going straight without access to the exterior vent.

In general to achieve or maintain a healthy home for yourself and others living in the home, **homekeeping** is generally key and something that the home's residents have the most control over. Some overall suggestions for all:

- **Keep it Clean-** Control the source of dust and contaminants, creating smooth and cleanable surfaces, reducing clutter, and using effective wet-cleaning methods. Wood debris and wood styrofoam should be removed from a basement on a regular basis to prevent it from circulating in the air you breathe.
- **Keep it safe-** Install or contact housing for smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- **Keep it well ventilated-** Whenever possible utilize the stove vent when cooking and the shower fan when bathing. Keep furnishings and debris away from heating and cooling vents. Change furnace filters monthly. If you do smoke, it is best to do outside.
- **Keep it pest free-** All pests look for food, water, and shelter. Seal cracks and openings throughout the home. Store food in pest-resistant containers. Contact housing if you know of a bug or rodent problem so that it can be addressed before it gets out of control.
- **Keep it Maintained-** Inspect, clean, and repair your home routinely. Take care of minor repairs and problems before they become large repairs and problems.

If you have any questions regarding this air assessment, I can be contacted at (715) 849-2195 ext. 5221. Our office does not have the capability to physically test mold in a home.

Thank you for your time.

Jen Knight
Indoor Air Quality Specialist

CC: Duane Emery, Housing and Planning Director
Al Outrigoff, Housing Inspector

Whenever an Issue is Found, There is ALWAYS a Cause, a Source, and a Solution! Backtrack from the Visible Issue To Find the Problem!