



## Mold & Mildew Addendum

### GENERAL

Mold growth indoors is an issue common in the Pacific Northwest. Mold spores naturally exist indoors and cannot be eliminated. Normally, they do not grow or reproduce on indoor surfaces and become visible and pose a problem unless a condition of excess moisture exists at surfaces. The main causes of mold growth are too much moisture generation, too little moisture removal, or cold surfaces. For example, mold often grows around windows because blinds or shades are always kept closed, thus cooling the window area and causing mold growth. Those causes of mold growth can be reduced or eliminated by simple procedures under your control. To reduce mold and mildew, Resident agrees to the following:

### KEEP THE INDOOR HUMIDITY LOW

- Use bathroom fans during and for at least 30 minutes (preferably 1 hour) after showering and bathing. If no fan is available, open windows slightly for ventilation for the same amount of time.
- Use the exhaust fan above the stove whenever cooking or boiling liquids, or if fan (or if recirculating fan exists that does not exhaust to the outdoors), open a window slightly for ventilation during cooking or boiling.
- Use the fan in the laundry area during and for 20 minutes after using the washer (not the dryer if exhausts outdoors), or if no fan, open a window slightly for ventilation.
- Do not use unvented space heaters, such as kerosene heaters, indoors.
- Do not use your oven for space heating.
- Do not keep excess number of house plants.

### PREVENT COLD SURFACES THAT PROMOTE MOLD GROWTH

- Raise blinds or shades as often as possible each day (extremely important)!
- Allow at least one inch between furniture and walls to warm wall surfaces.

## KEEP THE INDOOR TEMPERATURE AT LEAST MODERATELY WARM DURING NON-SUMMER MONTHS

- Always keep heat above 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Low temperatures cause mold growth.
- Do not turn off the heat in any rooms (especially bedrooms).
- Open closet doors.

## TEND TO SPILLS OR FLOODING

- Immediately dry any water that spills or overflows from showers, tubs, toilets, sinks, etc.
- Immediately clean up and thoroughly dry any spills onto carpets, rugs or floors.

## IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY OWNER/AGENT OF ANY EXCESS MOISTURE PROBLEMS

- Immediately notify Owner/Agent of any water leakage such as leaking plumbing, tubs, showers, toilets or windows.
- Immediately notify Owner/Agent of any running water-plumbing, tubs, showers, or toilets.

## CLEAN REGULARLY AND THOROUGHLY

- If mold appears on any indoor surfaces, immediately scrub it off with soap and water (bleach is not necessary), and then rinse and dry the surface.
- Check, clean and dry window tracks and keep free from condensation buildup.
- Once you have attempted to clean mold, if it reappears or you are not able to remove it, immediately report the mold to Owner/Agent.