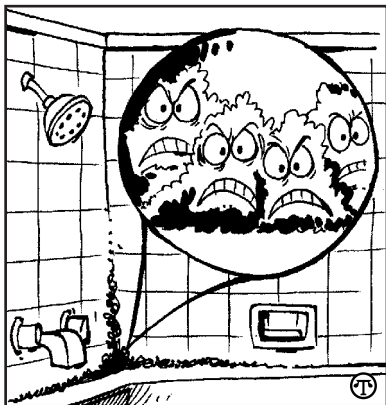


Health Awareness



Home Mold Invasion

(NAPSA)—Balmy summer weather not only encourages outdoor activities, but it may promote indoor activity as well. Mold growth may increase because of the warm, moist conditions that this season brings.



Mold tends to appear during the summer.

For small children, the elderly and allergy and asthma sufferers, mold can be a real problem. It can trigger a variety of symptoms, including irritation, allergies, asthma and even sinus and respiratory infections. To help keep mold at bay this summer, the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification (IICRC) offers these tips:

- **Clean and Dry**—Clean soap scum and soil off bath walls and fixtures with disinfectants or “mildew removers.” Turn on vent fans before showering. Wipe excess moisture off shower walls.

- **“No Moisture, No Mold”**—Check for mold growing around windows and door entries. Locate and eliminate moisture sources; then dry out materials and clean affected areas carefully with household detergents. Check for water drainage toward the house. Address basement moisture problems.

- **Stop the Drops**—Get leaks fixed promptly. If a water pipe bursts, get professional help immediately. Make sure affected areas are properly repaired, dried and cleaned. An IICRC-certified technician has the training to verify proper drying using moisture-metering equipment.

For more information on preventing mold growth, or to locate an IICRC-certified firm, visit www.iicrc.org or call (800) 835-4624.