# Mold Inspection & Testing


Find out why Fun Guy Inspection & Consulting LLC is a favorite among many other environmental firms specializing in water damage, mold inspection, lead testing, and asbestos analysis throughout the greater Los Angeles area. The top choice of thousand of people. Over the last 8 years Robert Santanastasio has helped hundreds of families bring their sick homes back to life.

Specializing in Residential, Commercial and Industrial Building Inspections for Mold, Testing Mold Spores & Detection of Water Damaged materials in Los Angeles, San Diego, and Ventura Counties emphasizing indoor environmental health concerns and a healthy buildings. The most important step in identifying a mold problem during a certified mold inspection for black mold/fungi is a visual inspections. Fun Guy Inspections will help you determine the extent of water damage and mold growth during your Mold Inspection preparing you for the Mold Removal Process

## Mold Removal

Mold Removal and Remediation Companies local to Los Angeles are certified specialist that remove mold from different types of residential, commercial and industrial buildings after water damage has occurred. Removing mold is the most effective strategy in combating a mold problem.

## Mold Inspections

Mold Inspections are completed to help determine indoor air quality, the different types of molds spores, the extent of water damage within the buildings and provide recommendations for mold removal by a certified mold inspector.

## Asbestos & Lead

Asbestos and Lead Inspections in Los Angeles are conducted by certified inspectors and local laboratories.

Same day service and results available in some areas.

## Get Help

Speak with a Certified Mold Inspector today. Musty Smells and Odors, Visible Mold, Hidden Mold We Inspect & Detect.

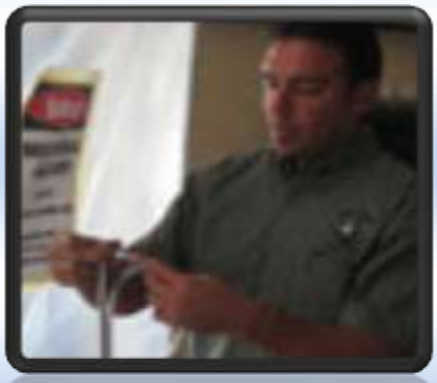
Begin by contacting FunGuy Inspections and a Certified Mold Inspector today.

## Mold Inspection & Testing

A mold test inspection for black mold/fungi is the most important first step in identifying a possible microbial contamination problem. Fun Guy Inspection & Consulting LLC will determine the extent of any water damage and potential mold growth during your mold inspection.Certified and Fully Insured.

## Moisture Testing - Water Damaged Building Materials

During a mold inspection, a mold inspector will determine if drywall and other building materials are holding moisture, with potential for mold to grow. Knowledge of a recent flood or previous water event is an important factor in determining remedial strategies or a Mold Inspection-Testing hypothesis. The history of a building is a critical piece of information that can help isolate a potential mold problem. Indoor contaminants caused by damp and humid conditions should be repaired by a licensed, bonded and insured specialty mold remediation company. Water Damage? Mold Problems?



## Mold Inspection & Samples - Air / Bulk Environmental Testing

During your Mold Inspection, Mold samples can help determine a "snap shot" of your indoor environment. Air samples for Mold spores can be taken from your indoor environment and can help Fun Guy Mold Inspection & Consulting LLC detect and confirm suspect mold growth conditions. Physical mold samples including bulk mold samples, tape lift mold samples and swab mold samples, all can be taken by a mold inspector at the time of your mold investigation. The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) has limited information on Permissible Exposure Limits PELs to biological contaminants within residential structures. Fun Guy Inspection & Consulting LLC uses EMLab, an AIHA (American Industrial Hygiene Association) accredited laboratory for all microbial analysis. Mold samples taken with Air-O-Cell cassettes can help determine if mold spore concentrations are normal or elevated within indoor environments.

# Mold Glossary


## ACGIH

American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists

## American Indoor Air Quality Council

An Environmental Consultant is a professional who can identify the causes of poor indoor air quality – even when problems seem vague or unrelated to visible causes. The Environmental Consultant is trained to see a building the way a general practitioner sees the body of his patient – as an organic whole with dozens of inter-related systems contributing to overall health. In order to diagnose the patient properly, the Consultant must be able to gather and interpret data from various systems operating in a building. His experience and training must therefore come from a wide range of disciplines.

## Allergy

An exaggerated or inappropriate immune response initiated by exposures to antigens such as mold spores, pollen, or certain drugs and foods

## Amplification

The process of indoor growth leading to an increased indoor microbial concentration compared to the immediate outdoor environment

## Anderson sampler

A sieve-type air sampling device that uses a vacuum pump to draw air through a radial pattern of 300 small holes, impacting particles in each of the small streams of air onto the surface of microbial growth medium.

## Ascomycetes

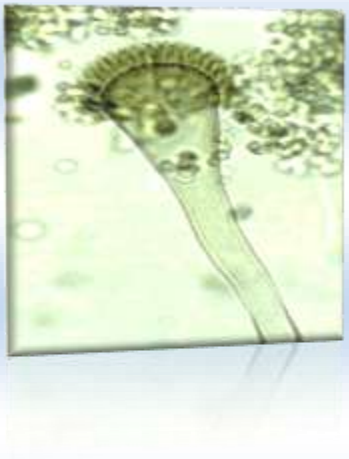
This group consists of yeasts, cup fungi, morels and plant pathogens. They reproduce sexually by cellular and nuclear fusion and form ascospores produced inside an ascus (a sac in ascomycetes in which sexual spores are formed). Asexual reproduction is by conidia, which are produced on a phenomenal range of different kinds of structures. The form of these structures and the way the spores are produced are used in the naming of these fungi. The hyphae have numerous septa. They are generally inhabitants of soil but may be found in freshwater and marine habitats. Both sexual and asexual spores are abundant in air. Most of the fungi that are common indoors are asexual stages of Ascomycetes. Some of these are readily identified on spore trap slides. Others require culture and examination of spore bearing structures for identification.

## ASHRAE

American Society of Heating Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers.

## Aspergillosis

a group of diseases caused by the fungus Aspergillus; affected tissues may include lungs, bronchial airways, sinus cavities, ears, and eyes.



## Asthma

An immediate hypersensitivity (allergy) resulting in respiratory symptoms such as wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath, and a feeling of constriction within the chest or bronchial airways.

## Bacteria

Microorganisms with prokaryotic cell organization (lacking membrane-bounded nucleus and other specialized features); bacteria are also typically much smaller than fungi (molds)

## Basidiomycetes

This group consists of some yeasts, rusts, smuts, jelly fungi, puffballs, mushrooms, boletes and shelf fungi. They reproduce by means of cellular fusion which may occur long before nuclear fusion and spore formation. They produce basidiospores externally on basidia. Asexual spores are conidia. Basidiomycetes have hyphae with septa. The hyphae of many basidiomycetes form tiny tubes that connect one cell to the next, allowing migration of nuclei. These are called clamp connections. Basidiomycetes grow in soil, producing above-ground fruiting bodies on which spores are formed. Spores of many Basidiomycetes are abundant in air and some can be identified microscopically.

## Bioaerosol

An airborne dispersion of particles containing whole or parts of biological entities, such as bacteria, viruses, dust mites, fungal hyphae, or fungal spores.

## Blastomycosis

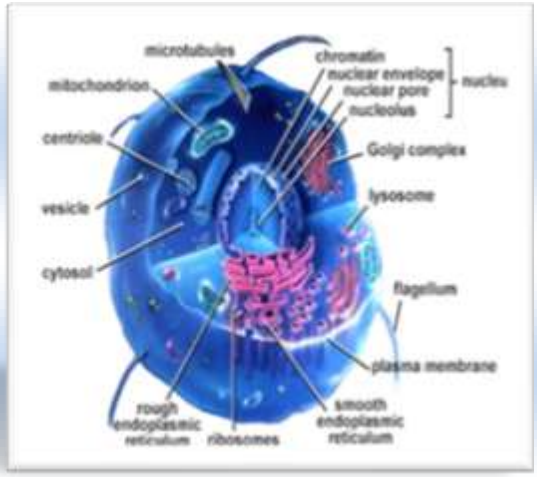
A disease caused by the fungus Blastomyces dermatitidis; may infect lungs, skin, mucous membranes, bones, internal organs, and joints.

## Brown-rot Fungi

Fungi that are capable of utilizing the cellulose and hemicellulose portions of wood but are incapable of decomposing brown lignin; rot characteristics include crumbly appearance and brown coloration

## BRI

Building-related illness: a recognized disease that can be attributed to airborne building bioaerosols or chemical pollutants.




## Cell

The smallest and most fundamental unit of life.

## CFUs

Colony Forming Units; individual regions of growth attributed to a single reproductive unit such as a spore or vegetative cell.

## Coccidioidomycosis

A disease caused by the fungus Coccidioides immitis; may infect lungs, internal organs, bones, joints, and skin.

## Colony

A discrete growth usually discernable by the naked eye; this term is usually used in reference to growth originating from a single spore or cell

## Cryptococcosis

A disease caused by the fungus Cryptococcus neoformans; may infect lungs, central nervous system, skin, and lining of body cavity.

## Dermatophytes

A fungus that causes skin disease in humans or other animals.

## Dew point

The temperature at which water would condense from the air if the air mass were cooled. In general, when the relative humidity is high, the dew point will be close to the air temperature. At 100% relative humidity, the dew point is equal to the air temperature. When the relative humidity is low, the dew point is much lower than the air temperature.

## Endotoxin

A lipopolysaccharide component of the membrane of gram-negative bacteria that is heat stable and toxic; a secreted toxin produced by bacteria is termed an "exotoxin"

## Emlab

Environmental Microbiologies. Used by Fun Guy Inspection & Consulting LLC for all biological assays.

## Fungus

(pl. fungi) A kingdom of organisms (equal in rank to the Plant Kingdom or the Animal Kingdom) defined technically as a parasite or saprobeic, filamentous or single-celled eukaryotic organism, devoid of chlorophyll and characterized by heterotrophic growth, and the production of extracellular enzymes. Fungi include yeasts, molds, mildews, and mushrooms.

## Fungicide

A chemical compound capable of inhibiting or destroying the growth of fungi.

## Genus

A grouping of similar species according to taxonomic criteria, for example, humans (Homo sapiens) belong to the genus 'Homo' and the species 'sapiens'

## HEPA filter

High Efficiency Particulate Air filters that have been tested to assure removal of 99.9% of particles 0.3 μm in size

## Histoplasmosis

A disease caused by the fungus Histoplasma capsulatum; may infect lungs, skin, mucous membranes, bones, skin, and eyes

## Hypersensitivity

An allergy; an exaggerated or inappropriate immune response categorized based on which part of the immune system that is involved and the onset of response (i.e. Types I, II, III, IV)

## Hypha

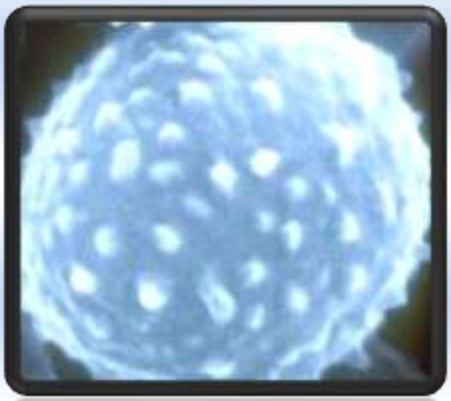
(pl. hyphae) A branching tubular structure that forms the vegetative body of a growing filamentous fungus

## HVAC

Heating, Ventilating, and Air-Conditioning.

## Indoor Environmental Standards Organization

A group dedictaed to upholding the standards of mold inspections.



## Immunocompromised

Any condition in which the immune system functions in a abnormal or incomplete manner; such conditions are more frequent in the young, the elderly, and individuals undergoing extensive drug or radiation therapy.

## Immunosuppression

Suppression of the natural immune response (see immunocompromised).

## Keratitis

Microbial infections of the cornea (eye); when caused by a fungus, it is referred to as mycotic keratitis

## Legionnaires' Disease (Legionellosis)

A form of pneumonia caused by the bacterium Legionellae ; first discovered in 1976 from infected persons attending the Legionnairs meeting in Philadelphia.

## Microbe

A general or non-specific term for any microorganism such as bacteria, fungi (molds), algae, or protozoa.

## Mildew

A common name for mold or fungi; often used in reference to fungal growth on bathroom tiles and fixtures

## Mold

A common name for fungi that grow in a filamentous fashion and reproduce by means of spores; all molds are fungi, but not all fungi are considered 'molds.

## Mucormycosis

A group of disease caused by the fungi belonging to the group Mucorales (Class Zygomycetes); such fungi may infect lungs, sinuses, mucous membranes, central nervous system, internal organs, and eyes.

## Mvoc's

Studies indicate that several microorganisms can produce VOC's and may also be released from non biological sources. Specifically the MVOC's methyl 1-1 butanol, 2 hexanone, and 2 hepatanone may be associated with fungi. Other sources of MVOCS may vary with the expected amount of biological growth and the presence of other sources.

# Black Lumber Mold - Call (888) 470-0470

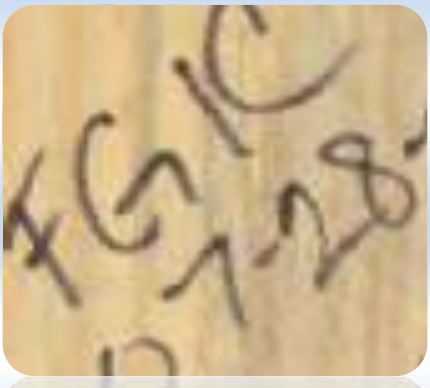
## Black Mold on Lumber - Lumber Mold

Home owners remodeling or building new structures are not aware that certain types of mold can already be built into their structures. This type of mold, commonly referred to as "lumber mold" can often be brought on the lumber that it is used to build your home, office or new addition. The Lumber Association California Nevada states "that the mold will not continue to grow in the absence of moisture and water intrusion." "Lumber Mold can often appear black and seem to have a heavy residue on the surfaces of framing members causing home owners concern

## Black Lumber Mold - how did it get here?

"Lumber that is solid and piled in moist weather conditions will have a tendency to mildew, leaving a dark almost black stain on the lumber. As lumber is exposed to the atmosphere, the moisture content goes down and it will equalize in the surrounding atmosphere at about 11%. This is well below the level needed to support fungi or mildew." **LACN**

"Molds are typically characterized as fungi that discolor the wood surface through the production of pigmented spores that can be yellow, green, orange, black and an array of other colors. WWPA, Pg 4. Mold spores are present on surfaces in all homes, so cleaning will not prevent re-growth of mold (Taylor, 2004).



## Mold Clean Up - can i clean the mold?

Every year billion of board feet of lumber are installed in our buildings, some with black lumber mold. Fungi only need oxygen, temperature, food, and water to grow. Controlling moisture in the environment is an essential task in preventing mold growth. In the event mold growth is visible on the surface "there are a number of products on the market, from commercial mildewcides to common bleach, which are promoted for removing mold from wood. However, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency suggests using mild detergent and water for most mold clean up. For cleaning wood surfaces, the EPA recommends wet vacuuming the area, wiping or scrubbing the mold with detergent and water and, after drying, vacuuming with a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) vacuum" (EPA, 2001). **Call today to learn more *(888)470-0470.***

# Bathroom Mold?

## Water Damage & Bathroom Mold

Fun Guy Mold Inspections & Consulting LLC discovered that the plumbing behind the shower stall was leaking. The damage created by the water leak caused extensive damage in the adjacent bedroom's floor and wall (click on photo). The **bathroom mold** was discovered in the wall behind the shower head and behind the bathroom sink. Culver City, CA

## Bathroom Mold Found Below the Bathroom Sink

**Bathroom Mold** Found Below the Bathroom Sink was Discovered by a Fun Guy Certified Mold Inspector. The result of the Mold Sample identified Stachybotrys as a one of the Species of Fungi Found on the drywall. Bathroom Mold Testing in Los Angeles, CA

## Bathroom Mold Caused by

Bathroom Mold can often arise from areas that are used every single day such as our toilets. Many times you may not even notice that a small water leak has developed in the area. Always check the area next to the toilet to make sure a leak has not developed. Pasadena, CA

## Fungi-Mold Bathroom

Many homes are susceptible to the growing mold in bathrooms. Water leaks, broken pipes and humidity all contribute to the factors that help mold grow within a bathroom. CALL 888-470-0470

## Bathroom Mold Growth

MIn addition to the **bathroom mold** problems that may arise from a sudden water damage event or increased humidity, a pre-existing, or new mold growth condition will continue until the moisture problem is solved. CALL 888-470-0470

# Contact Us

(888)-399-3994

http://funguyinspections.com