

WONDER MAKERS ENVIRONMENTAL

JANUARY 2015 E-NEWSLETTER

Water Damaged Buildings – Seeing the Big Picture

One of the things that Wonder Makers is mainly known for is our ability to link together disparate parts of a problem and explain it to a wide variety of audiences in understandable terms. Asbestos abatement, indoor air quality complaints, lead exposure during construction activities, and health concerns seemingly tied to mold are all areas where the Wonder Makers team has offered clarity to the industry by working diligently to comprehend multiple issues as a whole.

A great example of this is the movement away from focusing solely on mold when the reality is more complex. Wonder Makers was one of the first environmental firms in North America to introduce the term "water-damaged building" (WDB) into the conversation of the mold remediation industry. This broader approach to the problem of visible and hidden mold helps to align industry practices with the latest information from medical, biological, building science, and regulatory groups.

Starting with this newsletter, we want to offer our readers a more detailed look at some of the primary issues related to water-damaged buildings. Sharing a broad approach does not match up well with the format of a short newsletter, however, so we have planned a series that all together will build a greater understanding of water-damaged buildings.

Since information on different aspects of water-damaged buildings will be rolled out progressively, having an image that helps our readers see where all the parts fit is a critical part of the education process. We encourage you to take a moment to follow [this link](#) so that you can quickly see the multi-dimensional aspects of dealing with water-damaged buildings. [Click here for flow-chart.](#)

Being able to explain the big picture of water-damaged buildings has substantially improved our ability to answer difficult questions. We suspect that many of our newsletter recipients-whether remediation contractors, building owners, inspectors, or individuals suffering from mold and water-damaged buildings-have faced similar questions. In an effort to educate and assist others in dealing with these issues this second link will take you to a document that is set up in a question and answer format. For this newsletter we have summarized answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about the relationship between water-damaged buildings and occupant symptoms, as well as questions about the current industry approach to mold. The following questions are answered in a straightforward fashion that is balanced between the extremes of "fungiphobics" and "mold minimizers":

TRAINING SCHEDULE

Certified Mold Professional

February 3-5: West Palm Beach, FL

Mold Remediation Technician

February 24-26: Kalamazoo, MI

April 14-16: Kalamazoo, MI

Mold Remediation Supervisor

March 3-4: Kalamazoo, MI

Mold Refresher

May 6: Las Vegas, NV

For complete schedule see:

WonderMakers.com/Education

Questions Answered in the Linked Document

[\(Click here for document.\)](#)

Q1. Is mold growth in a building a cause for concern or not?

Q2. What other contaminants could be associated with water damaged buildings?

Q3. Why is there such a divergence of opinion regarding health effects related to mold?

Q4. Do individuals react differently to exposures from water damaged buildings?

Q5. Is there any hope for people who seem to be severely sensitized/debilitated by their exposure to water damaged building?

Q6. Are there any rules controlling how mold and other contaminants in water damaged buildings are treated?

Together with the chart that shows the many aspects involved with doing work in water-damaged buildings, the questions and answers found at this link can serve as important education for your staff and clients.

Subsequent newsletters will delve into each of the specific subsets of environmental concerns related to water-damaged buildings.

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