

TIPS FOR PREVENTING MOLD AND MILDEW

A Guide for Residents of Picatinny Arsenal Housing

- Do not block or cover any heating, ventilation, or air conditioning ducts.
- Whenever possible, maintain a temperature in your home between 70 and 76 degrees in the air conditioning season and 65 to 74 degrees Fahrenheit during the heating season.
- To allow an exchange of air and permit sunlight to enter your home, air out your home when weather is warm and humidity is low. Run the fan on your furnace to help circulate fresh air.
- In damp, humid, or rainy weather, keep windows and doors closed.
- Clean and dust your home on a regular basis. Use environmentally safe household cleaners. Regular vacuuming and mopping removes household dirt and debris that contribute to mold growth. A vacuum cleaner with a HEPA filter will help remove mold spores.
- Periodically clean and dry the walls and floors around the sink, bathtub, shower, toilet, windows, and patio doors using a common household disinfecting cleaner. On a regular basis, wipe down and dry areas where moisture sometimes accumulates, such as countertops, windows, and windowsills.
- Use the bathroom fan when bathing or showering and allow the fan to run until all excess moisture has been vented from the bathroom.
- Use the exhaust fan in your kitchen when cooking or while the dishwasher is running and allow the fan to run until all excess moisture has been vented from the kitchen.
- If you have a clothes dryer in your unit, clean the lint filter after each use and promptly report any damage to the vent connection. If condensation forms within the closet, wipe it dry. Dry damp clothing as quickly as possible.
- Limit houseplants to a reasonable number to limit excess humidity in your home and limit molds that could grow on the solid surface. Avoid over watering.
- If you clean up a spill on your carpeting, blot the area dry.
- Do not overfill closets or storage areas. Overcrowding restricts airflow.