

# Benefits Express

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## FOR YOUR BENEFIT

JUNE/JULY 2007

### What's that funny smell? Helping to scout out and prevent mold in your house---Featured vendor Puroclean Restoration Services

Even though Colorado is mostly an arid environment, mold does grow. Mold can be a very big problem in your home if it goes undetected and has the opportunity to spread. Those with chronic health problems, the elderly and young children are the most susceptible to health problems related to inhaling mold spores.

How do you know if you have mold in your home and how can you prevent it?

A few tips:

1. You should scout out your house for the most common sources of mold at least once per quarter. These include; leaky water heaters, leaky hoses in the washing machine or dish washer and exterior sprinklers hitting window wells in the basement. Even slow drips in common appliances such as these can create a mold

problem. Repair any leaks promptly.

2. If you do have a water problem in the house, either a slow leak or if you have extensive damage from an appliance break, flooding, etc., ensure that you are working with a certified water damage specialist who can professionally dry out your structure. Dry wall that is left moist, even if the floors are dried can cause mold. Additionally crawl spaces and sub flooring can also harbor mold if not properly dried.

3. If you smell mold or see mold, do not cut into dry wall or flooring. This will cause more mold spores to release into the air. Call a specialist immediately.

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