

MOULD CLEANUP IN LIBRARY

Safe Operating Procedure Updated: 16 Feb 2023

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| Hazards | Repetitive strain, respiratory, falls | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Tools/Equipment | HEPA vacuum, ladder | |
| Employee Group(s) | Custodial | |

Required PPE:







Eye Protection



Gloves



Respirator

The following is a mould remediation plan within the Angus L. MacDonald Library, St. FX University, that was prepared by ALLTECH Environmental in September 2022. The remediation plan will follow procedures outlined in the Canadian Construction Association (CCA 82-2018) "Mould Guidelines for the Canadian Construction Industry" and the ANSI/IICRC S520-2015 "Standard for Professional Mould Remediation", 3rd edition.

The conditions observed in the Angus L. MacDonald Library were:

- Minor surface mould growth on numerous books throughout the library. Mould growth on the books
 normally appears as a pattern of greenish/grey spotty circular growth with masses of fine, white,
 fluffy growth. ALL-TECH observed the mould growth feeding on the microscopic layer of organic
 dust on the books and can be easily cleaned.
- A layer of settled dust among the book stacks throughout the library.

Table 1 - Recommendations for Remediation

| Location | Remediation |
|---|--|
| | Required |
| Numerous books located through the | Books – HEPA vacuum all surfaces of the books on each stack and wipe visual mould impacted |
| library and stack shelving | books with an alcohol based disinfectant wipe. |
| | Stack Shelving – HEPA vacuum all surfaces of the stack. |
| Rare Books | Books - Follow the Library procedures for handling rare books and HEPA vacuum only, do not |
| | use any |
| | wet wiping to clean. If further remediation of mould-contaminated rare books, further |
| | assessment must be completed to determine the best method to restore. |
| Floors | Carpet/Hard Surfaces – HEPA vacuum and wash surfaces following normal cleaning |
| | procedures. |
| Ceiling Tiles by 3 rd Floor Vent | Ceiling Tile – Remove and replace with new. |



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SCOPE OF WORK

Work Area Preparation

- 1 Isolate with caution tape to prevent bystanders from entering the designated work area.
- 2 Clean materials listed in Table 1 in place.

Worker Protection

Workers must wear an N95 respirator. The selection, fitting, maintenance, and use of the
respirator must meet the requirements of the CSA Standard Z94.4-2018, as amended. Workers
must be fit tested with the assigned respirator within the past 2 years. The seal of the respirator
to the wearer's face shall not be comprised by any facial hair. Filters shall be disposed and
replaced after 24 hours of continuous use.

Execution

- 1 Conduct all cleaning tasks as identified in Table 1 starting on the top floor of the library and working down each level to the basement.
- 2 Begin by cleaning with a HEPA vacuum with soft brush starting at the top of the stack and working down each stack shelve and surfaces of all books. Do not use a non-HEPA vacuum. Clean all exposed surfaces with the HEPA Vacuum and brush attachment.
- **3** Wet wiping any books with visible mould growth, using the alcohol based disinfectant wipe. Wipe both adjacent books next to the mould book and replace on stack.
- 4 For Rare Books, handle books as per Library's procedures and HEPA vacuum only.
- **5** Remove and replace ceiling tiles around the vent on the 3rd Level by Stack 307.

Scheduling

Coordinate with the Library regarding work schedule and isolate an entire wing of the floor using
caution tape starting with the top level working down to the basement. Do not start another level below,
until the entire level is clean.

Clearance Sampling

Upon completion of cleaning of the surfaces in the library listed in Table 1, a competent person must inspect the work area for acceptable cleanliness and completion, by a careful visual inspection for surface dust and visible mould growth. Surface mould testing of representative surfaces are recommended, but not required. Surface clearance criteria includes surface sampling for mould. A site will be considered acceptable and clean when a thorough visual inspection shows that all work as per plan is completed and that all surfaces in the work areas are free of any surface dust or debris. If surface sampling is performed to confirm cleanliness, the following criteria will be used to determine if re-cleaning of the work area is required.



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| Clearance Parameter | Result | Required Action |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Visual inspection | Dust free and no visible mould growth | No further action required. |
| Visual inspection | Dust and/or visible mould growth present | Re-cleaning is required. |
| Surface Mould Testing Results | Mould spores present, but no growth, or sparse growth indicated. | No further action is required. |
| Surface Mould Testing Results | Sparse to moderate growth Moderate growth Abundant growth | Re-cleaning is required. |

Limitations

It should be recognized that every effort has been made to identify all areas of the building requiring remediation. During the clean-up, areas of unidentified growth may be uncovered. Therefore, the remediation plan should be considered a living document that may require modification to reflect conditions observed. Any change to the remediation plan would require an approval by all parties involve.