

As a result of major storms, floods, and hurricanes, water damage can occur. Typically, what follows water damage is mold contamination.

### What are molds?

Molds and yeasts are classified as fungi and are commonly found in the natural environment. They can grow anywhere (indoors, outdoors) and require moisture and nutrients for growth.

### Types of mold exposure:

Mold exposure can occur through inhalation, skin contact, and/or ingestion. Therefore, when working with molds it is important to use appropriate personal protective equipment.

Per the CDC, immune-compromised individuals can experience adverse health effects from excessive exposure to mold contaminated materials. Individuals with mold allergies may also experience issues.

### What surface disinfectants should be used for mold?

Before mold disinfection is performed, be sure to assess the level of contamination. A mold remediation specialist may be a good contact for specific situations. Absorbent or porous materials may need to be discarded as the mold may not be removed completely due to the porous nature of the contaminated material.

The report, “*Mold Prevention Strategies and Possible Health Effects in the Aftermath of Hurricanes and Major Floods*” by the CDC Mold Work Group provides guidance on public health concerns related to mold following natural disasters. In this report, general guidance for removing and cleaning mold in buildings is provided:

“For cleaning mold covering <10 square feet in an area flooded by clean water, detergent and water might be adequate. However after hurricanes and major floods, flood water is likely to be contaminated and, in this setting, mold can be removed with a bleach solution of 1 cup chlorine bleach per 1 gallon of water.”

### What 3M disinfectants have fungi claims?

All 3M disinfectant cleaners are EPA Registered, intended for hospital-use on hard non-porous surfaces, and have at least one fungi claim. For example, 3M™ C. diff Solution Tablets are a proven, safer alternative to bleach, with a NFPA rating of 0, 0, 0. Not only is it effective against *Clostridium difficile*, but it is also effective against a broad spectrum of bacteria, and is also virucidal and fungicidal when used as directed. A complete list of those products can be found in the table. Technical Data Sheets for 3M disinfectant products, list their specific claims and other EPA label information.

### 3M Disinfectants with Fungi Claims

Product Name	Fungi Claim	Disinfectant Chemistry
<a href="#">3M™ C. diff Solution Tablets</a>	Trichophyton mentagrophytes	Sodium dichloroisocyanurate (NaDCC), safer alternative to bleach
<a href="#">3M™ Bathroom Disinfectant Cleaner Concentrate 4A / 4L</a>	Aspergillus niger Trichophyton mentagrophytes	Quaternary ammonium compound
<a href="#">3M™ Quat Disinfectant Cleaner Concentrate 5A / 5H / 5L</a>	Aspergillus niger Trichophyton mentagrophytes	Quaternary ammonium compound
<a href="#">3M™ Non-Acid Disinfectant Bathroom Cleaner Concentrate 15A / 15L</a>	Trichophyton mentagrophytes Candida albicans Aspergillus niger	Quaternary ammonium compound
<a href="#">3M™ Neutral Quat Disinfectant Cleaner Concentrate 23A / 23H / 23L</a>	Aspergillus niger Candida albicans Trichophyton mentagrophytes	Quaternary ammonium compound
<a href="#">3M™ HB Quat Disinfectant Cleaner Concentrate 25A / 25H / 25L</a>	Trichophyton mentagrophytes Aspergillus niger Candida albicans	Quaternary ammonium compound
<a href="#">3M™ Disinfectant Cleaner RCT Concentrate 40A / 40L</a>	Candida albicans Trichophyton mentagrophytes	Quaternary ammonium compound
<a href="#">3M™ HB Quat Disinfectant Ready to-Use Cleaner</a>	Trichophyton mentagrophytes	Quaternary ammonium compound



# Disinfection for Fungi (Molds and/or Yeasts):

## References:

### **FEMA- Cleaning Flooded Building**

[https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1381405548275-ec9f9b9de186f1874b92ecda6c33182b/SandyFactsheet1CleaningFloodedBldgs\\_508\\_FINAL2.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1381405548275-ec9f9b9de186f1874b92ecda6c33182b/SandyFactsheet1CleaningFloodedBldgs_508_FINAL2.pdf)

### **EPA- Mold Clean Up**

<https://www.epa.gov/mold>

### **US DOL OSHA site- Flood Clean Up**

<https://www.osha.gov/dts/weather/flood/response.html>

### **3M PSD- Protecting Yourself During Hurricane**

<http://workersafety.3m.com/protecting-yourself-properly-during-hurricane-cleanup/>

### **3M PSD- Proper PPE for Flood Recovery and Clean Up**

<https://multimedia.3m.com/mws/media/5266050/flood-recovery-and-clean-up.pdf>

### **CDC-NIOSH Emergency Response Resources**

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/emres/flood.html>

### **CDC – Mold Prevention Strategies and Possible Health Effects in the Aftermath of Hurricanes and Major Floods**

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5508a1.html>

## **Commercial Solutions**

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