

### **EnviroSpect of Western PA**

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In the Business of Keeping People and Property Safe Since 1980

# **Mold & Environmental Testing Professionals**

In the course of responding to environmental hazards, the services of several professionals may be required.

- Inspectors & Assessors
- Remediators & Abatement Companies
- Health and Wellness Professionals
- Indoor Air Equipment Providers
- Insurance Professionals
- Legal Professionals

As qualified professionals are found, they may be listed on the <u>www.EnviroSpect.info</u> website. Finding people who can help you can be time consuming. If you ask, we will help you find professionals in your area.

#### **Mold Testers**

Though mold is the most often tested environmental hazard, it is not the only hazard that should concern us. Many testers have limited training in that their role is simply the technical process of taking swabs of spots of mold or air samples. Their job ends with providing the data from the lab. Environmental Inspectors and testers, as described below, usually perform site assessment to find sources of moisture and recommends the appropriate tests. The most common environmental issue is mold, but many other contaminations exist.

### **Environmental Inspectors & Assessors**

We suggest utilizing certified indoor air professionals that are trained to test for and identify the full range of environmental issues. Envirospect professionals have identified pesticides, mold, Legionella, formaldehyde, asbestos, allergens, VOC's and a host of other contaminants in homes, businesses, schools, municipal buildings and many other properties.

#### **Health & Wellness Professionals**



We have found some very qualified professionals to determine sensitivities to mold and other environmental hazards. Two common medical professionals specialties for mold, allergen and other environmental illness symptoms include allergists and pulmonologists. Internists and general practitioners are often key to discovering environmental health issues. With modern heating systems along with "energy saving" house conditions we have seen contaminations form formaldehyde, pesticides, Legionella, VOC's and many other sources. We have also found Chiropractors as well as Physicians that excel at determining MCS, Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Syndrome.

#### Certified Mold Remediators Vs Environmental Abatement Professionals

Certified Mold Remediators clean up mold by mold removal. Some mold remediators stop sources of moisture and remodel the house when mold remediation is complete. There is a significant difference between abilities and approaches to environmental hazards. The term "remediation" is generally used to identify the process of removing or cleaning the hazard. "Abatement" is a term generally used to refer to including removing the cause or source of the contamination as well as cleaning the environmental hazard. We have come across many "Spray and Pray" professionals. Guess what....if the source of a contamination of any environmental type is not corrected, it will return. It is a simply science experiment. Same conditions lead to same result. Envirospect has

been called many times to address "sourcing" issues after a previous remediation has been preformed and paid for only to have the issue return.

#### Radon, Lead, Asbestos and other Environmental Hazard Remediators

Each of the environmental hazards takes special training, equipment and license to properly clean up or remove. As with above, the cause of a contamination needs addressed and corrected or the remediation is a waste of time and money.

## **HVAC (Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioner) Professionals**



Each home, business, school, health care facility or office has its own unique set of conditions. Improper installation or maintenance account for a significant portion of the environmental hazards in buildings. More importantly, HVAC, air cleaning, dilution or disinfection are a prime component of correcting environmental risks and hazards. Too many HVAC professionals address the temperature aspect of a building and not the health of the air environment. For some types of contamination, dilution systems such as HRV or ERV units are the answer and others may require filtration systems. The contamination source and internal negative air conditions need considered. As an example, separate negative air systems may be proper to allow a main house HVAC system not to

pull contaminations into a living space.

### **Legal Professionals**



To support insurance claims or deal with defective construction or negligent contaminations a legal professional may need consulted. We have seen coverage for environmental issues that was originally denied actually be covered after review of the contract and conditions of the denied claim.

## **Insurance Adjusters**

Many companies have mold coverage. This is more often true when a claim that is covered as a casualty loss is the cause of an environmental problem. We have found that reading you own insurance policy is a very wise thing to do.

## **Public Adjusters**



Public Adjusters are experts on property loss adjustment who are retained by policy holders to assist in preparing, filing and adjusting insurance claims. Employed exclusively by a policyholder who has sustained an insured loss, these professionals manage every detail of the claim, working closely with the insured to provide the most equitable and prompt settlement possible. A Public Adjuster inspects the loss site immediately, analyzes the damages, assembles claim support data, reviews the insured's coverage, determines current

replacement costs and exclusively serves the client, not the insurance company. That is the person to call when a claim is improperly denied.