

# WHAT CAN CAUSE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS?

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There are several situations that can cause potential mold issues inside a structure. Here are the most common occurrences that can present suspected microbial growth.



**Plumbing Leaks** - Most commonly found in kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms, and water heaters. This is generally due to a failure in the plumbing system. Continuous leaks in plumbing are one of the more common moisture issues that lead to mold growth.



**Water Intrusion or Storm Damage** - Water intrusion can happen due to several reasons, one of them being storm damage that could compromise the integrity of the building materials. The excess of moisture due to the failure of the structure could be a chief cause of mold problems in the damaged areas.

**Improper Grading Outside** - If the slope outside the house is grading toward the structure, this can cause moisture to build up around the foundation of the structure. This could lead to a water intrusion, as mentioned above.



**High Relative Humidity** - A high humidity inside the structure can be a cause for mold growth as well. The EPA recommends an indoor humidity of between 30-50 percent. This is considered normal for an indoor environment.

**Natural Air Transfer** - Another common cause of spores to be found in your home is through natural air transfer. Having open windows and doors allows for the transfer of air inside and outside of the home, allowing particulate matter to mix.

