

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Melissa Propp, RN at 308-345-4223

Free Mold Tests Kits Available

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) has provided UNL Extension Offices in the health district with free mold test kits. Additionally, information about health risks of mold is available when you pick up your kit.

“The test kits identify the mold type. They do not test air quality.” States Melissa Propp, RN Public Health Nurse with SWNPHD.

The mold test kit has six areas for samples taken with the enclosed clear adhesive strips and three collection bags for pieces of materials with suspected or visible mold. This does not provide testing for mold air samples. Molds are a natural part of our world and are present in and outside of our homes. Moisture is a key element in the creation of mold.

Following are several tips from the Environmental Protection Agency Guide to Mold, Moisture and Your Home:

- When water leaks or spills occur indoors ACT QUICKLY. If wet or damp materials or areas are dried 24-48 hours after a leak or spill happens, in most cases mold will not grow.
- Clean and repair roof gutters regularly.
- Make sure the ground slopes away from the building foundation, so that water does not enter or collect around the foundation.
- Keep air conditioning drip pans clean and the drain lines unobstructed and flowing properly. Keep indoor humidity low. If possible, keep indoor humidity below 60 percent.
- If you see condensation or moisture collecting on windows, walls or pipes – ACT QUICKLY to dry the wet surface and reduce the moisture/water source.

Pick up your free mold test kit from your county extension office in the following counties: Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins and Red Willow

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins and Red Willow counties. For more information call Melissa Propp, RN at 308-345-4223. SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10th Street, McCook – one block north of Arby’s and 501 Broadway, Imperial – entrance on 5th Street. You can also follow SWNPHD on Facebook and Twitter.

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