

## Landlords Required to Notify Tenants about Mold

During the 2005 legislative session, the Washington State legislature approved Engrossed Senate Bill (ESB) 5049, that requires landlords to notify their tenants about mold. (See especially Section 2 (12)).

The Department of Health has developed this web page to provide you with the materials you need as a landlord to comply with this new legislation.

Mold can impact human health. For some, molds impact can be profound. Mold may trigger an attack in people with asthma. For people who are allergic to mold, exposure may cause allergy symptoms (not unlike hay fever). Mold and the mycotoxins they may produce are still a topic of considerable debate; however mold should not be tolerated in the space where you live.



Senate bill 5049 **requires** landlords to notify tenants about mold. Specifically, landlords must supply information to tenants about:

- The health effects of mold
- Steps to take to avoid mold growth
- How to clean up mold if you have a problem



### Landlords **must** notify:

- New tenants starting July 24, 2005.
- Current tenants by January 1, 2006.

Posting of this information in a central location is allowed.

## Landlords Required to Notify Tenants about Mold

---

The following information can be obtained from the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) either electronically or in printed form.

### Materials:

- DOH web page, “[Got Mold](http://devwww/ehp/ts/IAQ/Got_Mold.html)” ([http://devwww/ehp/ts/IAQ/Got\\_Mold.html](http://devwww/ehp/ts/IAQ/Got_Mold.html)) contains information that fulfills these requirements.
  
- Links to two sites for mold information in Spanish:
  - From [California Department of Health Services, "Mold in My Home?", PDF - in Spanish \(1998\)](http://www.cal-iaq.org/moho9809.pdf). (<http://www.cal-iaq.org/moho9809.pdf>)
  
  - From [University of Minnesota: "Molds - Your Safe Home" - in Spanish](http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/housingandclothing/DK6608.html). (<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/housingandclothing/DK6608.html>)
  
- EPA document “[A Brief Guide to Mold, Moisture and Your Home](http://www.epa.gov/iaq/molds/moldguide.html)” (<http://www.epa.gov/iaq/molds/moldguide.html>). This document is available online and at 1-800-438-4318, in English and Spanish. This document will also fulfill the requirements for notification in the bill.

### Who can I contact for more information?

Should you need additional information on mold, please contact Tim Hardin of the Washington State Department of Health at (360) 236-3363 or [tim.hardin@doh.wa.gov](mailto:tim.hardin@doh.wa.gov).