

Your Building Biology WA Mould Audit

A **mould** audit involves a comprehensive assessment of active, dormant and possible mould sources in the build, discussion of associated health concerns and detailed remediation recommendations.

As opposed to an Environmental Scientist or Industrial Hygienist, Mould Testing Technicians and Building Biologists measure exposures within the built environment (such as in the home) against a set of standards that have been developed independent of industry and are both health and scientifically based. Building Biology Standards accommodate for sensitive individuals, from infants to the elderly and those in poor health, and take into consideration factors such as prolonged exposure, synergist and cumulative effects.

The purpose of the audit is to identify and determine sources and possible sources of mould, by undertaking the following:

- Visual inspection of both internal and external areas using the NIOSH mould and dampness tool as well as a comprehensive investigation of all surface areas.
- Moisture mapping for moisture content in building materials and additional infrared imaging.
- Assessment of ventilation, vapour movement and indoor air parameters.
- Laboratory testing* of mould load in the residence.
- Evaluate mould exposure levels.
- Advise of remediation, if required.

* No charge is added for the taking and packing of samples, however additional charges will be added at the rate of the laboratory charge.

What to Expect

After your initial phone or email conversation, you will receive a set of questionnaires, to be completed and returned within 3 days of the audit. From the questionnaires, the Mould Testing Technician or Building Biologist will assess your current health concerns, behaviour in relation to the presence of moisture and the build itself.

We ask that for mould assessments, the house be kept closed up for 48 hours prior. It is ok to enter and exit the premises, however the windows and doors should remain closed so as to limit any outdoor air exchange.

On the day of your audit, your Mould Testing Technician or Building Biologist will arrive at the agreed time. There will be time, at the beginning of the audit, to discuss any questions you may have had in regard to the questionnaire and discuss any other relevant concerns.

The onsite component of the audit will take approximately 4 hours, depending on the level of moisture, mould and/or water damage, and the build itself.

After the audit, the Mould Testing Technician (or Building Biologist) may provide some feedback and suggested practices or recommendation to start with in the interim, before your report is received.

Your invoice will be issued post completion of your audit and requires payment prior to the release of the report.

Your (standard) report will be provided approximately 10-14 *business* days of your onsite assessment, depending on the type of laboratory samples taken (if any). Your report will contain a brief summary of exposures (which can be emailed separately if passing on to a referring specialist or practitioner), background and additional information around each of the environmental exposures assessed, the findings and quantified exposures, associated health concerns and a full list of recommendations and remediation outcomes, as well as a link to the photographs taken onsite. (A formal, more comprehensive report can be prepared, on request. Please note that additional charges apply for a formal report and requests need to be made prior to the audit commencing.)

Building Biology WA wish to make sure that you fully understand the contents of your report and how to implement the recommendations suggested, to create a safe space for you and your family. For this reason, we encourage clients to email us their queries once they have read their report, if there is anything they don't understand.

* All costs except laboratory tests are included in the cost of the quoted audit.

* Laboratory tests are kept to a minimum, unless requested by the occupant. The number of tests recommended will be discussed with you at the time of the audit, prior to these costs being incurred.

***IT IS A BUILDING BIOLOGISTS JOB NOT TO ADD TO THE BODY'S LOAD (MEDICINES AND SUPPLEMENTS),
BUT TO TAKE AWAY FACTORS/TOXICANTS THAT BURDEN THE BODY.***