

## **Tips For Managing Mold in Storage Units**

It doesn't have to rain in Florida for mold to set in. With days in summer reaching 90% humidity, it's bound to happen eventually, especially in closets or storage units that may not be opened regularly. Here are some tips for managing Florida mold:

1. Never store anything that's been put away wet. Mold is especially fond of soft furnishings, like beach furniture or bags. The moisture that exudes from wet items can be transferred to drywall, resulting in mold on the surfaces that were not actually wet.
2. Use a desiccant such as Damp-Rid to absorb excess moisture. Depending on conditions, this might need to be changed a few times a year.
3. Periodically wipe down the storage unit with a weak bleach solution – one cup of bleach to one gallon of water. This will not only kill existing mold but will prevent mold from forming in the first place.
4. When repainting, choose a mold-resistant paint or add a mold-retardant to the paint can.
5. If you're using a condo maintenance service, make sure they check your storage unit as well as your condo after a storm or as a matter of course when they clean.

When to consider a contractor: If there are people in the unit are allergic or otherwise sensitive to mold, you may want to retain a service provider.