

Dear Ford Hall resident-

Housing & Dining Services is aware of concerns of Ford Hall residents regarding rumors of mold in student rooms. To this point we have received work orders from 13 rooms in Ford asking us to look into the issue and our staff is addressing those work orders as they are received. In order to proactively determine which rooms may have mold concerns, members of our maintenance and housekeeping staff will be entering every room to complete an inspection.

These inspections will begin tomorrow, Thursday, October 25th at 10 AM. Our staff will begin on the 9th floor and work their way down to the 1st floor. This process will take a few working days to complete, due to the number of rooms in the building.

The inspection will include examining the AC unit, pipes nearby and removing ceiling tile to inspect pipes above the drop ceiling. If staff has to move anything, it will be placed back to how it was prior to the inspection. Once your room has been inspected, staff will leave a notice in your room to let you know that the inspection has been completed.

To help expedite the process, please make sure your bed or dresser is not blocking the AC unit. If you have any questions, please reply to this email or ask your RA.

If any mold is found, maintenance and housekeeping staff will work to address that as per guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the State of Kansas and K-State Environmental Health and Safety.

Depending on the nature of the mold, whether old and inactive or new growth, treatment may include cleaning the affected area, repairing any pipe insulation that is damaged, and/or painting the area with mold resistant paint. For the rooms that have been looked at so far, in all cases the mold was inactive and not actively growing.

Below are some additional facts about mold you may want to be aware of.

As with any maintenance concern, please go to the front desk to have a work order submitted.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience!

K-State Housing & Dining Services
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Things You Should Know About Mold

1. There is no practical way to eliminate all mold and mold spores in the indoor environment; the way to control indoor mold growth is to control moisture. The pipes in the rooms carry cold water when air conditioning is on and hot water when heat is on. The pipes are insulated to minimize moisture issues but some condensation may occur when the outside air is much warmer than the water inside the pipes (similar to when your cold drink gets condensation on the outside of it on a hot day).
2. Reduce indoor humidity (to 30-60%) to decrease mold growth by: venting bathrooms, dryers, and other moisture-generating sources to the outside; using air conditioners and de-humidifiers; increasing ventilation; and using exhaust fans whenever cooking, dishwashing, and cleaning. Current humidity levels in Ford are between 25% and 30%. Exhaust fans are working as designed. Dehumidifiers may be brought in if more humidity management is needed.
3. Molds can be found almost anywhere; they can grow on virtually any substance, providing moisture is present. There are molds that can grow on wood, paper, carpet, and foods.