

News Release

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Too Much Moisture in Your Rented Home? Do You Know Who to Contact?

Wet weather can provide many opportunities for additional moisture to collect indoors and contribute to serious water damage. If you are living in rental housing in unincorporated Sacramento County and believe you are having a problem with structural issues contributing to excess moisture, here are some helpful tips.

Tenant Responsibilities:

If mildew is developing near moisture-rich areas such as the shower, tub or certain kitchen areas, it is up to the tenant to remove it. Mildew can also accumulate in the colder, winter months due to excess condensation near windows. While broken windows must be fixed by landlord, generally, cleaning and drying condensation is the tenant's responsibility.

"Ventilation is the key to combat this issue, said Tammy Derby with Sacramento County Code Enforcement. "Routinely open your windows, and use mechanical ventilation or fans in the room to dry it out."

Landlord Responsibilities:

If you are experiencing water intrusion in areas that don't usually have moisture, such as a closet, bedroom or living room, it is likely that the water is coming from a leaky roof, pipes or improper weatherization of your rental unit. In these cases, it is the responsibility of the landlord to make structural or plumbing repairs to prevent water from leaking into your home.

If you are experiencing structural and plumbing issues, and you haven't gotten anywhere with your landlord, you can file a complaint with the Sacramento County Information Center at 916-875-5656 to report your problem. Tenants can also contact the Human Rights and Fair Housing if they need assistance dealing with a tenant-landlord dispute. www.hrfh.org. Visit [County Code Enforcement on the web](#) for additional information. ###