



## Fall Cleaning

It is still fall believe it or not. Winter solstice is around the corner but there is still time for an important fall ritual.

Earlier this week i inspected a home for someone whose parent used to live in the first level of their ranch style home. The had never had a mold problem and had lived in the home for over 30 years. When moving her mother's furniture out to make room for her son to move down there, there was what looked like visible mold growing on the walls in all 4 rooms. My customer was unaware of any plumbing leaks or drainage problems during the time she lived in the home.

The mold growth was from what appeared to be a lack of ventiation and dehumidification.

Have you ever wondered why there is mold "all of a sudden" when it wasn't there before? For me this mold growth was the result of an accumulation of experiences over a very long period of time, repeated over and over again. The experience was not doing spring cleaning and fall cleaning. Said another way it was an accumulation of dust over decades. Furniture which was not moved to clean behind or underneath. The dust became low hanging fruit that was food for mold. Mold which is always present.

These simple rituals so important to our lives on so many levles have lost favor for many. I remember spring cleaning and fall cleaning with my mother and her mother when i was growing up. It wasn't fun but it was a good feeling helping my mother and grandmother. I learned over the years how important this simple ritual is.

There is still time to fall clean.