



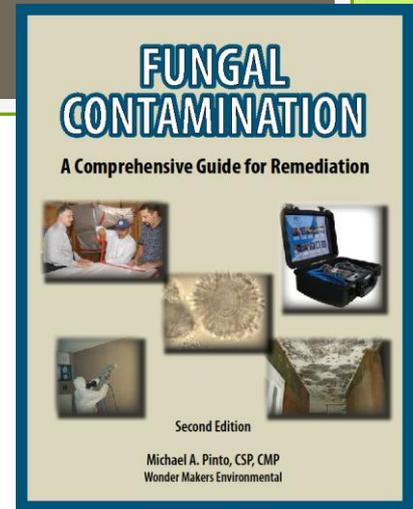
The Sandy Solution

A cleaning method and mold treatment for homes that were flooded during Hurricane Sandy



Your instructor

- Michael Pinto
 - CEO, Wonder Makers Environmental
- Doctoral training in Environmental Engineering
- Industry titles
 - Certified Safety Professional
 - Certified Mold Professional
- Author of 5 books and over 150 published technical articles



Housekeeping

- Start / stop time
- Breaks
- Restrooms / smoking areas
- Question / discussions
 - Candy
 - Special prize



Topics

MORNING

1. Overview of the Sandy Solution
2. Safety and health issues are paramount
3. Correct work activities and PPE
4. Dealing with the power issue
5. Checking the work (ATP & moisture meter)

WORKING LUNCH

AFTERNOON

6. Preparation of the structure for cleaning and mold treatment
7. The cleaning and mold treatment process
8. The drying process
9. Wrap up of the Sandy Solution and final questions



1. Overview of the Sandy Solution





The problem

- Hurricane Sandy arrived on October 29, 2012
- Wind, storm surge, and flooding from Delaware to Connecticut, especially New York and New Jersey

As time goes by without repair, problems mount



- Mold is the most visible threat
 - Government agencies and the press prominently warn about the problem, but offer little usable advice, unless there is money for professional restoration

Occupants and service providers are in danger from exposure to many toxins



Exacerbated problem



Some private companies and public service providers have indicated that they may not authorize restoration or repair of essential mechanical services until mold-contaminated structures have been “treated”.

There are restrictions

RESTRICTED USE

NYC **INSPECTED**
Buildings **LAWFUL OCCUPANCY PERMITTED**

This structure has been inspected (as indicated below) and no apparent structural hazard has been found.

Inspected Exterior Only
 Inspected Exterior and Interior

Report any unsafe conditions to local authorities; re-inspection may be required.

Inspector comments:

GAS AND ELECTRIC UNKNOWN
REPOSTED- CALL 311 TO CONTACT DOB

Date: 12-04-2012
Time: PM

Facility Name and Address:
870 NYSCOT AVE

STATEN ISLAND NY
This facility was inspected under emergency conditions for:
NYC DEPT OF BUILDINGS
(Jurisdiction)

Inspector ID / Agency:
CRIPPER 2478

Robert D. L. Mandi, Commissioner

Call # 718 223 3046
WILLIAM R. JOHNSON
PHYSICIAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
-631-754 0341
718) 745-5530 PATRICK W. JOHNSON, P.C.
718) 745-5531 8118 THROCK AVE
316 182 8888 BROOKLYN, NY 11208

Definition of “treatment” is elusive, at best

- De Blasio: City must do more to fight post-Sandy mold infestation
 - Asking for FEMA aid to fund more inspections, and calling on city to set up mold hotline and perform health monitoring
 - The public advocate says thousands of homes with mold are making people sick
- Mold linked with fatal asthma and allergy attacks; Dr. Mold network suggests use of Molderizer and Safe Shield
- Deactivate remaining mold spores

Many homeowners are without the financial resources to recover

- Federal government does not reimburse homeowners for mold remediation
- Neither does a city repair program aimed at restoring heat and electricity to damaged buildings



The challenge is to use an effective, yet volunteer-friendly, “treatment” approach to homes like this



Flood waters destroyed most building materials and contents within homes

All Hands Volunteers Challenge

To bring homes to a condition where build back can be conducted



“Sandy Solution” is a comprehensive approach



- Encompasses 18 steps

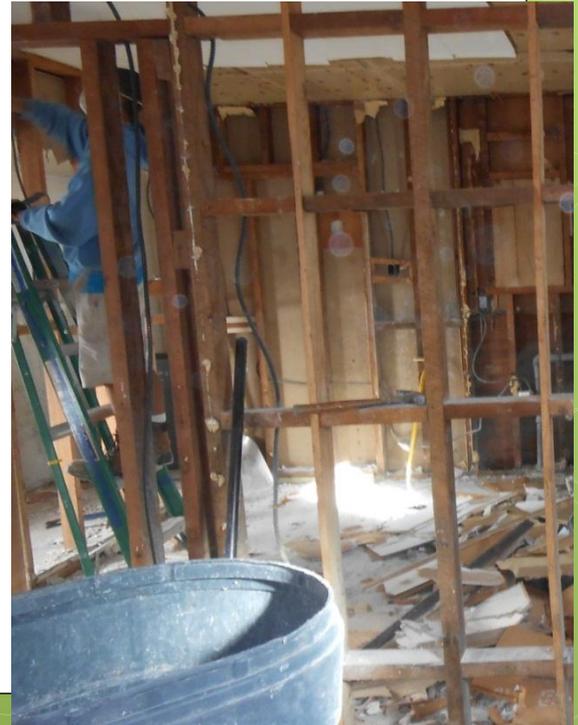
There is work to do before the specific steps



- Evaluation of structure
 - Conditions
 - Applicability of services
 - Recommendations to homeowner
- Final agreement on level of service

18-Step Sandy Solution

1. Isolation of non-impacted areas and contents
2. Muck out
3. Gutting
4. Restoring electrical power
5. Surface testing



Steps 6 - 12



6. Rubble removal
7. Sub-floor removal
8. Worker PPE
9. Equipment preparation
10. Foam application
11. Agitation of foamed surfaces
12. Power washing

Final 6 steps



13. Removal of excess water
14. Crawlspace barrier
15. Drying the structure
16. Air washing
17. Post-cleaning testing
18. Representative moisture testing

Sandy Solution is scientific, yet intuitive

- Combination of proven restoration techniques
 - Easily adaptable to volunteer groups
 - Involves specialized equipment
 - Pre- and post-cleaning measurements ensure effectiveness and efficiency
 - Initial Restoration for Flooded Buildings
- HURRICANE KATRINA RECOVERY ADVISORY

2. Safety and health issues



You are not helping anyone if someone gets hurt in the process



The lanyard makes up for all the rest?



Addressing flood-damaged homes poses numerous risks



- Flood clean-up hazards
- Electrical hazards
- Debris removal
- Falls
- Power tools
- Confined spaces

Safety risks change over time and with different activities

- Muck and gut
 - Sharp objects
 - Slips/trips from wet, cluttered conditions
 - Back injuries from lifting
- Cleaning and mold treatment
 - Electrical shock
 - Chemical exposure
 - Eye injury from compressed air

Muck out and gutting



- Removal of wet, porous materials
- Gutting of damaged finish material
 - Plaster
 - Wallboard
 - Sub-floors, as appropriate

Health risks are also prevalent

- Fungus
- Bacteria
- Asbestos in building products
- Lead in paint
- Oils
- PCBs
- Pesticides
- Heavy metals



Job Safety and Health Center



Health risks from mold range from minimal to severe

- Allergic responses
- Asthma trigger
- Organic Dust Toxic Syndrome (ODTS)



This could happen to you!

- ODTs example
- A severe case of *Coccidioidomycosis* caused by *Coccidioides immitis* from the soil in the Southwest U.S.
- The patient recovered



A final word on potential health problems with mold



Magnified view of *Mucor*
growing on skin

- CDC documented prevalence of a deadly fungus months after the Joplin, Missouri, tornado
- 8 people diagnosed and 3 died from fungal infection mucormycosis due to infections of minor injuries received during disaster response

It is not pretty!

- Mucor mold spores enter the body through puncture wounds and lacerated skin
 - He recovered



QUESTIONS?



Break

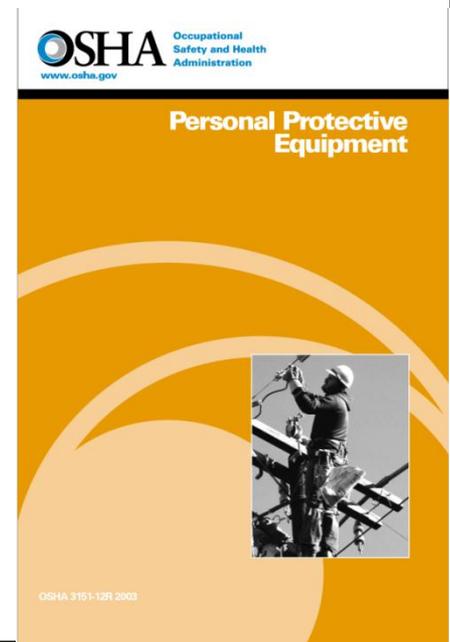


3. Proper work practices and personal protective equipment (PPE)

Respiratory protection whenever mold is present!

OSHA requires a PPE assessment

- From their guidance book:
 - OSHA requires that employers protect their employees from workplace hazards that can cause injury.
 - When engineering, work practice, and administrative controls are not feasible or do not provide sufficient protection, employers must provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to their employees and ensure its use.



Recommended PPE for cleaning and mold treatment



- Respiratory protection
- Eye protection
- Hand protection/gloves
- Disposable coveralls with head and foot protection
- Boots
- Special safety equipment

Correct PPE is based on the work activities



Minimum respiratory protection for mold

- N95 filtering facepiece
 - Disposable, single use
 - Replace daily, at minimum
- N100 filtering facepiece
 - For mold sensitive or close up work



Full face respirator as an alternative



- Provides both eye and respiratory protection
- HEPA filters protect wearer from mold spores

Respirator restrictions

- NO
 - Eating
 - Drinking
 - Smoking
 - Chewing
 - Applying of cosmetics
 - Facial hair



Protective suits



- Full body covering recommended for all situations of potential mold exposure
- Suits should protect workers from mold
 - Dry particle hold-out level of 1 micron or less

- Suits should have attached hoods and foot covers
- In hot environments, may be more effective to wear suits over shorts or swimsuits rather than work clothes



Slip-on boots are recommended

- Foot protection
 - Toe cap and sole protection
- Reduce slips and falls
 - Treads for traction
- Minimize cross-contamination
 - Non-porous, easy to decontaminate



Hand protection generally means gloves

- Work gloves for muck and gut out
- Rubber gloves for foam cleaning/power washing
- Thermal gloves for work in cold environments



Face shield is necessary for foaming, agitating, or power washing



Respiratory protection is worn underneath

Standard worker PPE for cleaning & mold treatment



Workers don:

- Splash resistant suits
- Respiratory protection
- Face shields
- Rubber gloves



4. Dealing with the power issue

Cleaning, mold treatment, and drying require power. Should existing electrical receptacles be used?

Current FEMA advice



Flooded electrical receptacles should be removed completely after the appropriate circuit breakers or fuses are deactivated.

A power distribution box is vital



Cooperation with an electrician is necessary

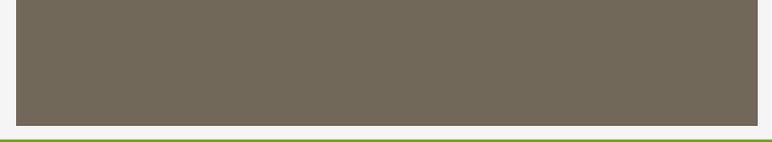
Reliable electrical service is a safety issue



The electrician will install a connection for the portable box at the panel

- One safe hook up for volunteers
- GFCI protection
- Extension cords still must be safe





QUESTIONS?



Break



5. Checking the work (ATP & moisture meter)



It is all about water



- Interior moisture will lead to mold growth
- Treated homes must be clean and dry

Dryness is measured with a moisture meter

- Surface and penetrating meters
- Dry to the touch is **NOT** a good indicator of moisture levels



Water levels of flooded framing can stay elevated for months



Check wooden frames before and after cleaning — and during drying

- Insert pin probe into bottom of meter
- Switch meter on



ON
button



It is just that simple



- Use the moisture button to get to “moist ext”
- Insert pins
- Document results

How do we test for cleanliness?

- Field test
 - Non-specific ATP (adenosine triphosphate) samplers
 - Bio-Reveal



Why this type of field test?

- Simple, quick, inexpensive
- Measures total level of biological residue
 - Virus, bacteria, fungus, plant, insect
 - General screen rather than specific test
- Helpful to the occupants



A surrogate for mold

- ATP samplers, such as Bio-Reveal, identify presence of organic residue
- Provide numerical results that include fungal, bacterial, plant, and animal residue
- Logically, if cleaning process has removed biological material, it has removed mold



Surface testing for cleanliness



- Document initial biological contamination levels using a Bio-Reveal ATP tester
- 4-inch square will be standard area measured

Simple operation

- Identify location to be tested; turn on the luminometer
- Remove swab from outer tube
- Pressing firmly down on swab tip (slight bend in swab shaft), collect sample from 4" x 4" area
 - Use side-to-side and up-and-down motion while rotating swab tip
 - Do not touch the swab tip or shaft with anything other than the surface to be tested, as this will contaminate the test.
- Place swab back into tube.
- The device is now ready to be activated or can be left inactive for **up to 4 hours** in this state.

ATP meter operation continued

- Holding swab/tube device upright, activate by bending the bulb back and forth until plastic valve breaks, then bend once more in opposite direction. Squeeze bulb twice to expel liquid into bottom of tube.
- Bathe swab bud in liquid by shaking gently in a side-to-side motion for 5 seconds. Test is now activated.
- Place entire swab/tube device into luminometer and close lid. Read the swab/tube sample within one minute of activation.
- Holding the luminometer in vertical position, press 'OK' to initiate reading. Test result will appear on screen in 15 seconds.

ATP meter precautions and warnings

- If swab/tube device accidentally gets activated, do not use.
- Avoid collecting large amounts of sample on swab bud.
- Keep swab/tube samples out of direct light when possible.
- Follow manufacturer's guidelines to maximize shelf-life of not-yet-activated samples.
- Refrigerated samples should be left at room temperature for 10 minutes before being used.
- Occasionally calibrate luminometer per the manufacturer's recommendations.

Post-cleaning testing

- Post-cleaning testing of surfaces for biological contaminants only after area is visually clean
 - Staining may still be visible
- Reading should be 150 or less



Lunch



6. Preparation of the structure for cleaning and mold treatment



Mold more prevalent above the water line

Isolation of foam cleaning work area



- Poly door with zipper may be used to isolate non-impacted areas from foam cleaning work area
- This type of barrier may also be used to isolate area during drying process

Isolating non-impacted contents

Polyethylene (poly) sheeting may be used to cover non-impacted contents within foam cleaning work area



Duct tape may be used to secure poly

Rubble removal

- Preparation of structure for foam cleaning by removal of rubble left from gutting



- Wall cavity insulation
- Nails/screws
- Small debris

Preparation for cleaning and mold treatment

Better than broom clean



Sub-floor removal



If there is a crawlspace, it is recommended that the sub-floor be removed so rubble can be removed from crawlspace

Rake out crawlspaces

Plastic will be installed over soil later to improve drying



HEPA vacuum basics

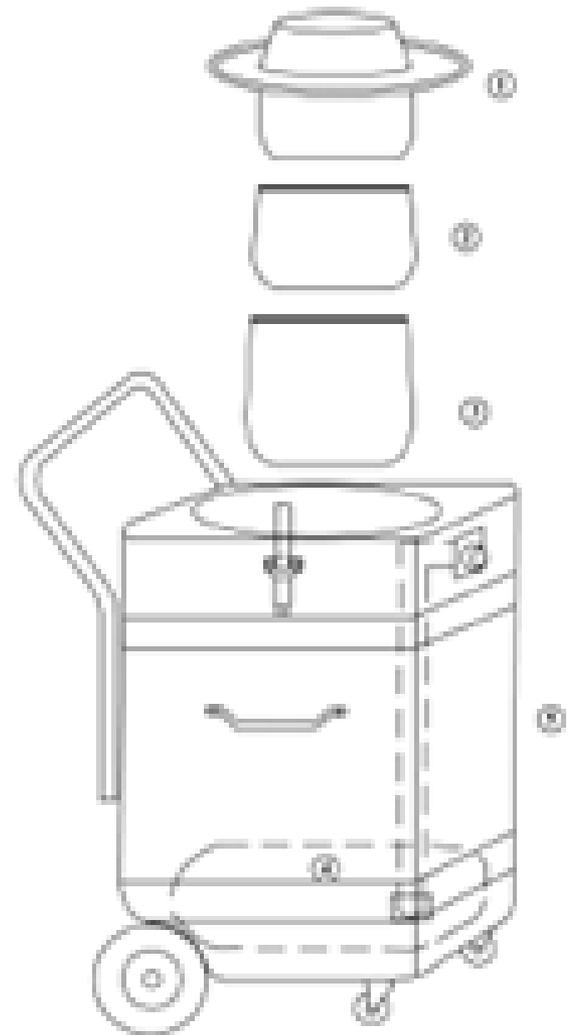


High
Efficiency
Particulate
Air



The guts of a HEPA vac

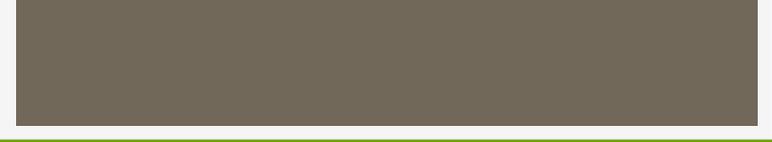
1. Motor/HEPA filter unit
 2. Dacron bag filter protector (for wet use)
 3. Paper filter protector (for dry use)
- 15-gallon poly tank and cart



QUESTIONS?



Break



7. The cleaning and mold treatment process

Why foam cleaning?

- Addresses hazards beyond mold and bacteria
- Flood waters can drive contaminants into porous and semi-porous building components through capillary action
- Shortfalls of surface treatments (vacuuming & damp wiping)
 - Do not reverse capillary action
 - Leave significant amount of flood residue in structure

Foam cleaning works



- Lather of cleaning product increases dwell time for anti-microbial agents
- Foam extracts contaminants from semi-porous structural members

Two foam applicators



Powered foam generator

- 20 gallon capacity tank
- 30 feet of $\frac{3}{4}$ " hose discharges foam
- Battery operated
- Large drain in front of tank
- Hinged fill cap
- Stainless steel wand assembly
- Gross weight: 56 pounds



It is what is inside that is important

- Primary rationale for product selection
 - Safety of users
 - Effectiveness
 - Mold and bacteria
 - Concentrate
 - Ease of use



Chemical questions



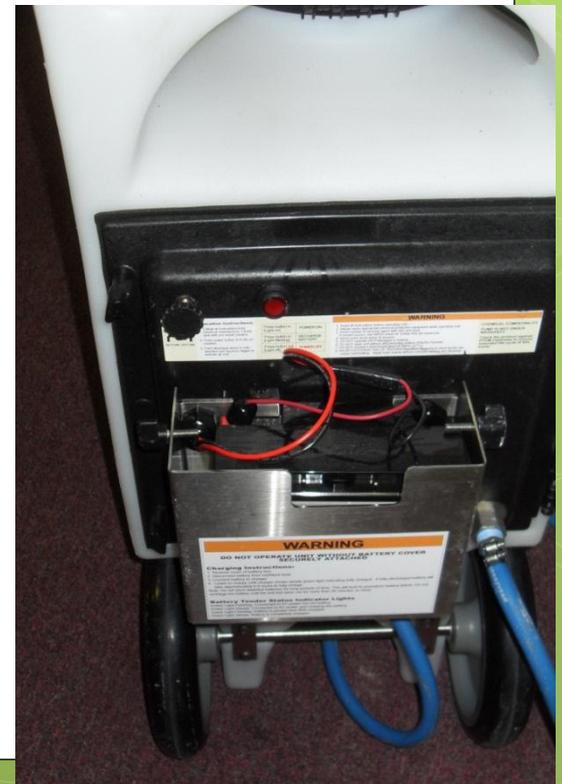
- Left over mixed product can be saved for the next job
 - Empty and rinse containers and hoses if a different product will be used in the foamer
- Shockwave foam can be used on surfaces that have been treated with bleach
 - Previously treated surfaces must be dry to touch
- Captured residue can be disposed in sanitary sewer

Preparing to operate foam generator

- Don personal protective equipment over work clothes
 - Safety glasses, goggles, or face shield
 - N-95 filtering facepiece or better
 - Rain suit coat (with hood) and pants, or water resistant suit
 - Rubber boots
 - Rubber gloves

Foam generator operation

- Install charged 12-volt battery into 12.5-gallon battery-operated foam unit
- Screw on top cover to battery
- Pour solution of two (2) ounces Fiberlock antimicrobial cleaner to one (1) gallon water into top of the foam unit
 - 10 gallons for average home
- Turn on unit, using switch



Foam generator controls

Needle valve

ON/OFF button



Let the fun begin!

- Direct spray nozzle of hose connected to foam unit at contaminated surfaces
- Completely cover contaminated surfaces with sanitizing foam spray
- Allow foam to remain on surfaces for at least five (5) minutes
- Using stiff-bristled brushes, physically agitate surfaces that contain visible fungal residue or staining
- After light agitation the foamed surfaces are ready for pressure washing

Foam application

Application of cleaning foam to all exposed surfaces with appropriate dwell time (3-5 minutes)



Pump foam generator



The hand pump unit can be used for hard-to-reach areas

Agitation tools/techniques

Agitation of foamed surfaces

- Scrub brushes for semi-porous structural materials and members
- Soft brushes or wiping for finished surfaces



Simple brushes do the trick

Power washing

Removal of cleaning chemicals and debris

- Power washer with low volume setting for structural members
- Squeegee/wiping for finish materials



K 1600 pressure washer

- 1,600 max adjustable PSI
- 1.6 gallons per minute
- 110 volt, 14 amp TEFC electric motor with 25' cord
- 33' wire braided hose
- Professional gun-jet lance



Operating the power washer

- On/off switch
- Water in
- Pressurized water out
- GFCI protected cord



It is dangerous!

- Turn on water supply.
- Turn on power switch. Reset GFCI if unit does not turn on.
- Unlock safety lock button and squeeze trigger to start stream. When first started, gun will kick back.
- Test spray edge of surface to be cleaned to make sure that the stream is not too strong. Adjust pressure by squeezing trigger more or less, or by changing distance from surface. Adjust stream from fan to direct stream by turning nozzle.

It is dangerous! (continued)

- Direct spray nozzle at all surfaces previously foamed. Keep water off non-impacted surfaces, such as drywall above the saw cut line.
- When finished, release trigger, turn power switch off, unplug, and turn off water supply.
- Point nozzle in safe direction and press safety lock button and squeeze trigger to ensure that all pressure is released from unit. Release trigger.
- Clean and store indoors.

Removal of excess water

Remove excess water using a wet/dry HEPA vacuum



Air washing

- Air washing of isolated upstairs areas for spore removal
- Air washing of surfaces and contents in isolated areas using window fans and low pressure compressed air
- Identification of any visible fungal growth during air washing triggers secondary remediation



QUESTIONS?



Break



8. The drying process

Natural or artificial?

Science provides a goal for drying

Summary of Moisture Reading Results for Wood Framing Materials

Moisture Reading	Results
> 20%	Wet - no good
15 - 20%	Partially dry - caution
< 15%	Dry - OK

Table from FEMA's Katrina advisory

Science also provides a caution



Warning: Failure to allow for adequate drying prior to reconstruction can trap moisture in the building, which can cause structural damage and potential health problems in the future.

Drying the structure means “all of the above”



Dry the structure to FEMA recommended levels using combination of:

- Home heating system
- Natural ventilation
- Floor fans
- Commercial dehumidifiers

Crawlspace barrier



Installation of plastic barrier on soil in crawlspace will speed up drying of structure

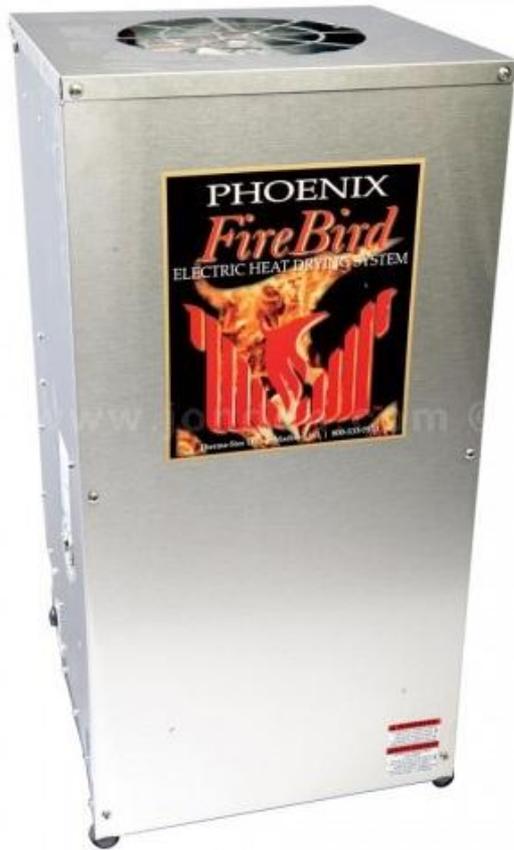
Air movement and fan placement

Vortex drying concept

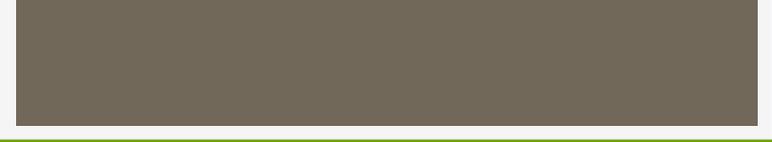
1. Bounce the air off wet surfaces
2. Move air in a circle
3. Place dehumidifiers in center



Add heat to accelerate drying



LGR dehumidifiers work best from 55 to 90 degrees F



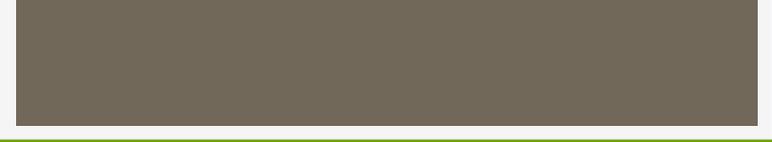
9. Wrap up of the Sandy Solution and final questions

All Hands Volunteers

Trained in a comprehensive foam cleaning approach to dealing with flood water contaminants



Time to practice!



QUESTIONS?



Break