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# THE CATHOLIC MUTUAL CONNECTION

## Making Prevention The Goal



The ramp-up to the beginning of the school year is an important time to tackle preventative maintenance to ensure that nothing goes wrong in the coming months. You can familiarize yourself with key topics such as [bleacher safety](#), [reducing roof leaks](#), [chair and table maintenance](#) and [securing vacant or unoccupied buildings](#) by visiting our CARES library.

Just as we work hard to instill accountability in our Catholic school students, we are proud to achieve it in all of our administrative dealings as well. Which is why our [Preventative Maintenance Checklist](#) is a great resource to ensure that your organization is taking responsibility for protecting the Church's property. We also invite you to share this [Preventative Maintenance video](#), to keep everyone up to speed on best practices.



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### SAFETY TIP

We think of mold as something creeping and insidious, but if you suspect you might have a mold problem it is vital to act swiftly and aggressively!

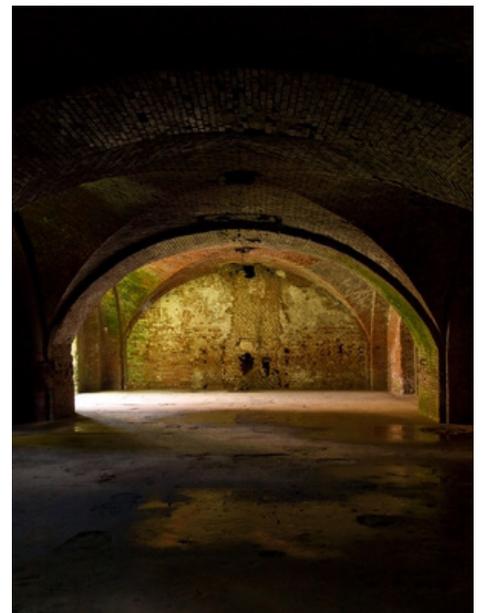
The first thing you should do is contact Catholic Mutual's Claims Department as soon as possible. We will talk you through the next steps, but one thing we will ask is that you make a visual inspection of the mold contamination to determine the extent of mold growth and scope of work necessary for remediation. We may also recommend that you consult with an Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) professional to test the site.

By keeping us informed of any potential mold issues you encounter, you are giving us the tools we need to help you mitigate the damage mold can cause.

## Sump Things You Should Know

Sump pumps play an essential role in keeping many basements and crawl spaces dry, but many people don't realize that there is some maintenance required to keep them operating and in good working order. If your pump ever fails to work, whether due to a malfunction, age, clogging or other circumstance, your basement could rapidly fill up with water. You can find valuable information on caring for your sump pump by clicking [here](#).

As with anything electric, sump pumps require extra caution at all times. A recent [tragedy](#) in Maryland highlighted this when a mother and her 4-year-old daughter were electrocuted outside their home while trying to remove water from their flooded stairwell. It is important to remember to hire a professional to deal with your sump pump, particularly if there is standing water in the basement.



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