Molds are part of the natural environment and can be found everywhere. Mold is not usually a problem unless it begins growing indoors. The best way to control mold growth is to control moisture.

## **Mold Prevention Tips:**

- Air circulation helps prevent mold, so do not pack your closets and storage areas too tightly. Open windows when the weather is nice and leave your door propped open when possible.
- Avoid placing damp or wet clothes/towels in storage spaces for extended periods of time as that will provide an environment conducive to mold growth.
- Good housekeeping practices (vacuum floors, wipe down counters, clean up spills quickly, cleanout refrigerators).
- Empty all trash and recycling regularly.
- If you live in an apartment or house on campus, you are responsible for cleaning your own bathroom. At least once a week, bathroom shower stalls, tubs, sinks, and floors should be scrubbed/cleaned with cleanser and treated with a bathroom disinfectant.
- Plants, wet soil, and plant containers introduce moisture in the air and promote fungal growth. Limit the number of plants in your space.
- Reduce hot showers to short periods of time to prevent excessive humidity and steam.
- Do not hang large posters or fabric on the outside wall that can trap moisture underneath and prevent air from circulating along the wall.
- Limit the use of humidifiers and hot water pots.
- Report any signs of moisture damage as soon as possible, so appropriate measures can be taken to fix the issue.

If you see or suspect mold please submit a **Facilities Work Request** to have the area inspected and cleaned. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Facilities at x4133 or email <u>facilities services@carleton.edu</u>