

# **Discovery Environmental Inspection Report**

# **Project Contact Information**

Alex Baylor
Environmental Specialists
Environmental Safety Office
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Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
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Gaywood Elementary School

42,416Ft<sup>2</sup>

Zack Butcher
Certified Indoor Environmentalist
Environmental Solutions, Inc.
6114 Drum Point Rd
Deale, MD 20751
410-867-6262
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# **Property Location**

6701 97th Ave, Seabrook, MD 20706

**Date of Inspection:** 4/2/2019



Prepared By: Zack Butcher

Certified Indoor Environmentalist (CIE)

Dear Mr. Baylor,

The results of the inspection and testing performed at Gaywood Elementary School are concluded, and the findings are enclosed. I want to thank you for allowing ESI the opportunity to service your indoor environmental needs. Included in this report are the observations, lab results, and recommendations from ESI's 04/02/2019 inspection and testing.

#### **Background Information**

The Prince Georges County Public School Environmental Team has taken a proactive approach in cleaning the above-mentioned school to ensure there are no health or environmental risks related to microbial and biological hazards. Historically elevated levels of humidity, condensation from pipes, periodic steam leaks and outdated HVAC systems, may have contributed to water damage ceiling tiles and colonization of mold spores in various area of the school.

# **Purpose**

ESI was engaged to inspect the school in a random and sufficient manner. Classrooms, administration offices, and common area building materials and contents will be visually inspected for water damage and microbial growth.

In each location inspected, the indoor air quality will be tested for elevated levels of carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide, in addition to measuring the relative humidity and temperature. Microbial hazards within the breathable air space will also be tested.

Based upon the visual assessment, instrument readings, and lab results, ESI will determine if additional remediation in required.

### **Observations and Instrument Readings**

The following table is designed for this project. Some of the fields may not be filled in due to not being applicable during the time of the inspection. You will notice either a 'YES' or 'NO' in the table. 'YES' indicates that mold and /or water damage was detected and 'NO' indicates it was not. If 'YES' is noted, remediation recommendation will be included for the area inspected.

Location	IAQ	Swab	R/H	Temp	CO2	Co	Cubic f	eet of air.
	Sample #							
6	2434286	N/A	30.6	63.1	1,231	0.00	7,	500
			I	nspected				
Ceiling	Walls	Teachers	Children's	Tables	Cabinets	Convector	Window	Windows/
Tiles		Desk	Desk		Shelving		Units	Doors
3x10	CMU	1	22	3	9	1	1	5 windows
								1 door
NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO

#### **Observation Notes**

- There was visible suspected microbial growth and evidence of water damage in the sink cabinet.
- The Carbon Dioxide (CO2) level in this room was elevated at 1,231 ppm (parts per million).
- The indoor air quality should not pose health or environmental concerns, as the total fungal ecology was 200 spores/M³ of breathable air space.

#### Recommendations

- To reduce Carbon Dioxide (CO2) levels, increase air exchange within this classroom. Ventilating or circulating the air with a fan will also reduce Carbon Dioxide (CO2) levels.
- HEPA vacuum, then damp-wipe the sink cabinetry with an anti-microbial agent to remove water staining and suspected microbial contamination.
- Ensure there are no active leaks from the sink.

Location	IAQ	Swab	R/H	Temp	CO2	Co	Cubic f	eet of air.
	Sample #							
24	2434287	N/A	25.7	66.9	760	0.00	12	,000,
			I	nspected				
Ceiling	Walls	Teachers	Children's	Tables	Cabinets	Convector	Window	Windows/
Tiles		Desk	Desk		Shelving		Units	Doors
3x10	CMU	2	10	5	10	1	1	4 windows
								1 door
YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO

# **Inspected**

- There were water stains on beams and the metal ceiling tile grid.
- There was evidence of previous leaks in the sink cabinet.
- The indoor air quality should not pose any health or environmental concerns, as the total fungal ecology was 120 spores/M³ of breathable air space.

#### **Recommendations**

- Clean the water stains on the ceiling beams and metal ceiling tile grid to remove rust stains.
- HEPA vacuum, then damp-wipe the sink cabinetry with an anti-microbial agent to remove water staining and suspected microbial contamination.
- Ensure there are no active leaks from the sink.

Location	IAQ	Swab	R/H	Temp	CO2	Co	Cubic f	eet of air.
	Sample #							
23	2434288	N/A	26.1	70.5	981	0.00	12	,700
			I	nspected				
Ceiling	Walls	Teachers	Children's	Tables	Cabinets	Convector	Window	Windows/
Tiles		Desk	Desk		Shelving		Units	Doors
3x10	CMU	1	1	8	10	1	1	4 windows
								1 door
YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO

#### **Observation Notes**

- There was evidence of previous moisture activity in the sink cabinet.
- There were water stains on the ceiling beams ceiling tile grid.
- There were 3 water stained ceiling tiles.
- The indoor air quality should not pose health or environmental concerns, as the total fungal ecology was 120 spores/M³ of breathable air space.

#### Recommendations

- Clean the water stains on the ceiling beams and metal ceiling tile grid to remove rust stains.
- HEPA vacuum, then damp-wipe the sink cabinetry with an anti-microbial agent to remove water staining and suspected microbial contamination.
- Ensure there are no active leaks from the sink.
- Remove, discard, and replace the three water stained ceiling tiles.

Location	IAQ	Swab	R/H	Temp	CO2	Co	Cubic f	eet of air.
	Sample #							
18	2434289	N/A	21.2	70.1	652	0.00	4,	300
			I	nspected				
Ceiling	Walls	Teachers	Children's	Tables	Cabinets	Convector	Window	Windows
Tiles		Desk	Desk		Shelving		Units	
3x10	CMU	3	0	2	12	1	1	1
YES	NO	NO	N/A	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

#### **Observation Notes**

- There were water stains on the ceiling tile grid and ceiling beams.
- The indoor air quality should not pose health or environmental concerns, as the total fungal ecology was 40 spores/M³ of breathable air space.

#### Recommendations

• Clean the water stains on the ceiling beams and metal ceiling tile grid to remove rust stains.

Location	IAQ	Swab	R/H	Temp	CO2	Co	Cubic f	eet of air.
	Sample #							
15	2434290	N/A	22.2	70.7	819	0.00	8,	900
			J	Inspected				
Ceiling	Walls	Teachers	Children's	Tables	Cabinets	Convector	Window	Windows/
Tiles		Desk	Desk		Shelving		Units	Doors
3x10	CMU	2	22	3	5	1	1	6 windows
								1 door
NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO

#### **Observation Notes**

- There was evidence of previous moisture in the sink cabinet.
- The indoor air quality should not pose health or environmental concerns, as the total fungal ecology was 120 spores/M³ of breathable air space.

#### Recommendations

- HEPA vacuum, then damp-wipe the sink cabinetry with an anti-microbial agent to remove water staining and suspected microbial contamination.
- Ensure there are no active leaks from the sink.

# **Interpretation of Lab Results**

In the enclosed Air Cassette Analysis report, you will notice Fungal Identification, which is the genera detected in the breathable airspace inside, and outside. The Raw count is the actual number of spores counted on the slide, and the Count/m3 are the spores per cubic meter of air. The other particles are non-living particles such as dander, mycelial fragments, pollens, etc.

For humans to be exposed indoors, fungal spores, fragments, or metabolites must be released into the air and inhaled, physically contacted (dermal exposure), or ingested. Whether symptoms develop in people exposed to fungi depends on the nature of the fungal material (e.g., allergenic, toxic, or infectious), the amount of exposure, and the susceptibility of exposed persons.

Susceptibility varies with genetic predisposition (e.g., allergic reactions do not always occur in all individuals), age, state of health, and concurrent exposures.

# **<u>Air Sampling Lab Results</u>**



Name: Environmental Solutions, Inc. Address: 534-A Deale Road Deale, MD 20751

Phone: 410-867-6262

Analyst: Smith, Kiersten

Project Number: 6701 97th Ave.

P.O. Number: JZB

Project Name: Gaywood Elementary School

Collected Date: 4/2/2019

Received Date: 4/3/2019 3:29:00 PM

SanAir ID Number 19015597 FINAL REPORT 4/5/2019 12:48:39 PM

Date: 4/5/2019

#### **Air Cassette Analysis**

ND = None Detected. Blank spaces indicate no spores detected.

SanAir ID Number	190	15597-001		190	15597-002		190	15597-003		190	15597-004	
Analysis Using STL		107C			107C			107C			107C	
Sample Number		2434285			2434286			2434287			2434288	
Sample Identification	Con	trol-Outside		1	Room #6		F	Room #24		R	oom #23	
Sample Type	Air Cas	sette - Micro-5										
Volume		25 Liters										
Analytical Sensitivity	40	Count/M <sup>3</sup>										
Background Density		1+			2+			1+			2+	
Other	Raw Count	Count/M³	%									
Dander	5	200	n/a	104	4160	n/a	39	1560	n/a	87	3480	n/a
Fibers				6	240	n/a	2	80	n/a	4	160	n/a
Fungal Identification	Raw Count	Count/M <sup>3</sup>	%	Raw Count	Count/M <sup>3</sup>	%	Raw Count	Count/M³	%	Raw Count	Count/M³	%
Ascospores										1	40	33
Aspergillus/Penicillium	2	80	67	1	40	20						
Basidiospores	1	40	33	4	160	80	2	80	67	2	80	67
Cladosporium species							1	40	33			
TOTAL	3	120		5	200		3	120		3	120	

Signature:

Date: 4/5/2019

Reviewed:

Johnston Whom



Analyst: Smith, Kiersten

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# **Air Cassette Analysis**

ND = None Detected	Blank spaces indicate no spores detected.

SanAir ID Number	190	15597-005		190	15597-006	
Analysis Using STL		107C		35.00	107C	
Sample Number		2434289		- 1	2434290	
Sample Identification	R	.oom #18		F	Room #15	
Sample Type	Air Cas	sette - Micro-5		Air Cas	sette - Micro-5	
Volume		25 Liters		18 112 20	25 Liters	
Analytical Sensitivity	40	Count/M <sup>3</sup>		40	Count/M <sup>3</sup>	
Background Density		1+			1+	
Other	Raw Count	Count/M³	%	Raw Count	Count/M³	%
Dander	31	1240	n/a			
Fibers	2	80	n/a	1	40	n/a
Fungal Identification	Raw Count	Count/M³	%	Raw Count	Count/M³	%
Ascospores						
Aspergillus/Penicillium				2	80	67
Basidiospores	1	40	>99			
Cladosporium species				1	40	33
TOTAL	1	40		3	120	

Signature:

K. Smith

Date: 4/5/2019

Reviewed: Johntha Wlan

Date: 4/5/2019

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# **Organism Descriptions**

The descriptions of the organisms presented are derived from various reference materials. The laboratory report is based on the data derived from the samples submitted and no interpretation of the data, as to potential, or actual, health effects resulting from exposure to the numbers of organisms found, can be made by laboratory personnel. Any interpretation of the potential health effects of the presence of this organism must be made by qualified professional personnel with first hand knowledge of the sample site, and the problems associated with that site.

**Dander** - Comprised of human and/or animal skin cells. Counts may be higher in carpeted rooms and in rooms with more traffic. Health Effects: May cause allergies.

Fibers - This category can include clothing, carpet, and insulation fibers.

Ascospores - From the fungal Subphylum Ascomycotina. Ascospores are ubiquitous in nature and are commonly found in the outdoor environment. This class contains the "sac fungi" and yeasts. Some ascospores can be identified by spore morphology, however; some care should be excercised with regard to specific identification. They are identified on tape lifts and non-viable analysis by the fact that they have no attachment scars and are sometimes enclosed in sheaths with or without sacs. Ascomycetes may develop both sexual and asexual stages. Rain and high humidity may help asci to release, and dispurse ascospores, which is why during these weather conditions there is a great increase in counts. Health Effects: This group contains possible allergens.

Aspergillus/Penicillium - These spores are easily aerosolized. Only through the visualization of reproductive structures can the genera be distinguished. Also included in this group are the spores of the genera Acremonium, Phialophora, Verticillium, Paecilomyces, etc. Small, round spores of this group lack the necessary distinguishing characteristics when seen on non-viable examination.

Health Effects: Can cause a variety of symptoms including allergic reactions. Most symptoms occur if the individual is immunocompromised in some way (HIV, cancer, etc). Both Penicillium and Aspergillus spores share similar morphology on non-viable analysis and therefore are lumped together into the same group.

Basidiospores - From the Subphylum Basidiomycotina which contains the mushrooms, shelf fungi, and a variety of other macrofungi. They are saprophytes, ectomycorrhizal fungi or agents of wood rot, which may destroy the structure wood of buildings. It is extremely difficult to identify a specific genera of mushrooms by using standard culture plate techniques. Some basidiomycete spores can be identified by spore morphology; however, some care should be exercised with regard to specific identification. The release of basidiospores is dependant upon moisture, and they are dispersed by wind. Health Effects: Many have the potential to produce a variety of toxins. Members of this group may trigger Type I and III fungal hypersensitivity reactions. Rarely reported as opportunistic pathogens.

Cladosporium species - The most commonly identified outdoor fungus. The outdoor numbers are reduced in the winter and are often high in the summer. Often found indoors in numbers less than outdoor numbers. It is commonly found on the surface of fiberglass duct liner in the interior of supply ducts. A wide variety of plants are food sources for this fungus. It is found on dead plants, woody plants, food, straw, soil, paint and textiles. Often found in dirty refrigerators and especially in reservoirs where condensation is collected, on moist window frames it can easily be seen covering the whole painted area with a velvety olive green layer.

Health Effects: It is a common allergen. It can cause mycosis. Common cause of extrinsic asthma (immediate-type hypersensitivity: type I). Acute symptoms include edema and bronchiospasms, chronic cases may develop pulmonary emphysema. Illnesses caused by this genus can include phaeohyphomycosis, chromoblastomycosis, hay fever and common allergies.

References: Flannigan, Brian, Robert A. Samson, and J. David Miller, eds. Microorganisms in Home and Indoor Work Environments: Diversity, Health Impacts, Investigation, and Control. London and New York: Taylor & Francis, 2001.

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### **Conclusions/Recommendations**

The samples in this report do not indicate elevated concentrations of aerosolized mold spores in the breathable air space of the specific locations tested.

However, several rooms still need attention. This is mainly due to water stained ceiling tiles, ceiling tile grids, and ceiling beams, water damaged sink cabinetry, and slightly elevated levels of CO2. Please refer to all the recommendations listed above.

I hope you found our service beneficial. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 410-867-6262.

Respectfully,

Jack Butcher

Zack Butcher (CIE)

Environmental Solutions, Inc.



#### **Industry References**

Since the 1993 New York City Department of Health (NYCDOH) document (Assessment and remediation of *Stachybotrys Atra* in Indoor Environments) was produced, several other guidance documents have been written. This report was developed in accordance with and including:

- Fungal Contamination in Buildings: A Guide to Recognition and Management (Health Canada, 1995).
- Control of Moisture Problems Affecting Biological Indoor Air Quality (Flannigan and Morey, 1996).
- *Bioaerosols: Assessment and Control* (American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists [ACGIH], 1999).
- <u>Guidelines on Assessment and Remediation of Fungi in Indoor Environments</u> (NYCDOH, 2000). [external link]
- *Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings* (U.S. EPA, 2001).
- Report of the Microbial Growth Task Force (The American Industrial Hygiene Association, 2001).
- Fungal Contamination: A manual for investigation, remediation and control (BECi) 2005.
- 29 CFR 1910, Occupational Safety and Health Standards for General Industry, U.S. Department of Labor
- Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification Standard IICRC S520 29 CFR 1926, Occupational Safety and Health Standards for the Construction Industry, U.S. Department of Labor
- 40 CFR 61, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- ACR 2006, Assessment, Cleaning and Restoration of HVAC Systems, National Air Duct Cleaners Association, 2006\*
- ASHRAE Standards 62.1 or 62.2
- ASTM D-1653, Standard Test Methods for Water Vapor Transmission of Organic Coating Films
- *Bioaerosols: Assessment and Control*, American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, 1999
- Field Guide for Determination of Biological Contaminants in Environmental Samples, American Industrial Hygiene Association, 2005
- A Guide for Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings, US Environmental Protection Agency, 2001 Protecting the Built Environment: Cleaning for Health, Michael A. Berry Ph.D., 1993
- IICRC S100 Standard and Reference Guide for Professional Carpet Cleaning, Fourth Edition, Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification, (S100)\*
- IICRC S300 Standard and Reference Guide for Professional Upholstery Cleaning, First Edition, Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification, (S300)\*
- ANSI/IICRC S500 Standard and Reference Guide for Professional Water Damage Restoration, Third Edition, Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification, (S500)\*