Safe and effective clean up:

- Open windows and doors to provide fresh air, or use fans to dry your home.
- Wear rubber gloves, eye protection, and a mask when cleaning.
- Use a non-ammonia soap or detergent to clean all areas. Never mix bleach with ammonia.
- Check out all odors. Find all mold sources and clean them properly.

Steps to prevent mold growth:

- Remove all material such as plaster, drywall, paneling, flooring, insulation and other wet materials that are below the water line.
- Discard wet items that can’t be repaired such as mattresses, carpet, rugs and padding, upholstered furniture, cosmetics, stuffed animals, toys, and books.
- Use a HEPA vacuum if available. If not, extract standing water with a pump or wet vacuum from slabs, crawl spaces, and anywhere water could be standing.
- If mold is visible after cleaning, more scrubbing or cleaning may be necessary.
- Wipe surfaces with a sanitizer (one cup of bleach to one gallon of water). Use mold-killing products, if possible.
- Keep humidity level as low as possible in the home. Air conditioning and dehumidifiers will help.
- To prevent future mold growth, dry affected areas as quickly as possible, within 24 to 48 hours.

Potential health effects of mold:

- The most common types of mold are generally not hazardous to healthy people.
- Others may experience allergy-type symptoms – runny nose, watery eyes, sneezing, and skin irritation.
- Mold may trigger asthma symptoms for some.