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Topic Theme:
Detecting, removing, and preventing mold growth in the home lowers health risks associated with mold growth and avoids costly clean up and repairs due to mold damage.

Audience:
Adults who are: current homeowners; currently looking to buy a home; or plan to buy a home in the future; homeowners or renters who currently have a mold problem; have had a mold problem in the past; or are not sure if they have a mold problem.

Objectives:

I. Introduction: What is Mold?

Objectives:
1) Learners will be able to define mold by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - knowledge)
2) Learners will be able to describe how mold survives and thrives by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - comprehensive)
3) Learners will be able to describe mold's varied appearance by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites, viewing photographic illustrations and mold case studies and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - comprehensive)
4) Learners will be able to identify at least 3 beneficial services or products some molds perform/produce by reading lesson materials and related web sites, viewing photographic illustrations and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - comprehensive)
5) Learners will be able to list two reasons why molds should not grow indoors by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites, viewing mold case studies, listening to and viewing an audio PowerPoint and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - knowledge)

II. Health Risks

Objectives:
1) Learners will be able to identify at least 6 allergy symptoms associated with mold exposure by reading lesson materials. (cognitive - comprehensive)
2) Learners will be able to identify the 5 types of people who are more severely affected by mold exposure by reading lesson materials. (cognitive - comprehensive)
3) Learners will be able to explain why some molds are more dangerous than others by reading lesson materials. (cognitive - comprehensive)
III. What Causes Mold Growth?

Objectives:
1) Learners will be able to list 4 key ingredients for mold growth by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - knowledge)
2) Learners will be able to list at least 5 common sources of indoor moisture by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites, listening to and viewing an audio PowerPoint and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - knowledge)
3) Learners will be able to identify 3 signs of the presence of mold by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - comprehensive)
4) Learners will be able to describe at least 5 conditions in a home that would promote mold growth by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - comprehensive)

IV. How Do I Remove Mold?

Objectives:
1) Learners will be able to describe 6 steps to cleaning and removing indoor mold growth by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - comprehensive)
2) Learners will be able to list 5 personal protection items that must be worn during mold cleaning and removal by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - knowledge)

V. How Do I Prevent Mold Growth?

Objectives:
1) Learners will be able to identify the 4 areas of consideration when implementing a mold prevention plan in their home by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - comprehensive)
2) Learners will be able to describe at least 3 prevention actions or measures from each of the 4 areas of a mold prevention plan by watching an introductory video on mold, reading lesson materials and related web sites and participating in an interactive test. (cognitive - comprehensive)
3) Learners will be able to follow the procedures for checking their home for potential mold problems by walking around the inside and outside of their home, down into the basement or up into the attic, using checklists provided by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). (psychomotor - guided response)
4) Learners will be able to implement a mold prevention plan for their home by using the EPA materials and lesson materials as a reference. (cognitive - synthesis)
5) As a result of implementing a home mold prevention plan, learners will have demonstrated a commitment to indoor air improvement and increased health and well-being for the individuals living in their home. (affective - valuing)

Content Outline:
I. Introduction: What is Mold?
   A. Definition
   B. Survival Habits
   C. Species Varieties
   D. Benefits
   E. Dangers
II. Health Risks
   A. Allergy Symptoms
   B. Sensitive People
   C. Dangerous vs. Non Dangerous Molds

III. What Causes Mold Growth?
   A. Ingredients for Mold Growth
   B. Sources of Mold Growth
   C. Signs of Mold Growth
   D. Conditions for Mold Growth

IV. How Do I Remove Mold?
   A. Steps to Cleaning and Removing Mold
   B. Personal Protection Items Required to be Worn During Mold Removal

V. How Do I Prevent Mold Growth?
   A. Areas to Consider When Implementing a Mold Prevention Plan
   B. Prevention Actions or Measures

Asynchronous Icebreaker/Opener:

Opener:
Are you a homeowner? Are you concerned about rising insurance costs due to mold-related claims? If so, then this Mold Mini-Course is for you! The Texas Department of Insurance reports that the average cost of investigating a mold claim and covering the additional living expenses is $10,000. Removing mold from the home can run as high as $30,000. To avoid having these expenses passed on to you, take this Mold-Mini Course. Find out what mold is, under what conditions and circumstances it needs to grow, the health risks involved, how to remove mold, and most importantly, ways to prevent mold growth in your home.

Online Icebreaker:
This icebreaker will help introduce class members to each other; help get to know and understand the background knowledge and experience each student has with mold; help determine expectations of the students and direction of the class; and personalizes the experience through creative thought and sharing.

Ask each student to introduce themselves via a threaded discussion tool by giving their name, occupation, and education level or degree they are seeking. Stimulate interest in the presentation topic by asking students to share where they live (city, state, country), what type of dwelling they live in, how long they’ve lived at that residence, and whether they are renters or owners. Ask them to choose a word or short phrase that describes their experience with mold. Prompt with a few suggestions:
• “been there, done that”
• “desperate”
• “in the dark”

Encourage those with current and past histories with mold to share their experiences with the class.

Interactivity Strategies:

Learner-Interface:
- Welcome page - text/graphic orientation
- Photographs
- Audio clips
- Animation
- Video
- Threaded discussions
- Links to other sites
- Downloads for free media software

Learner-Learner:
- Threaded discussions with other class members
- Suggested activities to perform with other household members (conducting home survey to detect mold growth, home maintenance check, home mold prevention plan)
- Links to forms to complete activities
- Frequently Asked Questions page
- Email link to Housing Specialist to answer specific questions

Learner-Instructor:
- Threaded discussions
- Streaming video overview of mold lesson (what to look for, where to look for it, how to remove it, and how to prevent it)
- Video of Mycologist in a house (demonstrating and discussing specific problems/areas)
- Case studies (used as supporting examples for content and as learning assessment)

Learner-Content:
- Completes each module
- Completes online interactive test
- Completes online evaluation
- Looks at links provided
- Reads text
- Reads case studies
Assessment:

Learners will participate in an online interactive PowerPoint test to assess their understanding, comprehension, and application of knowledge learned. Questions will include multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, short answer, and problem-solving scenarios.

The following rubric will be used to assess the learner’s development of a Mold Prevention Plan:

Mold Prevention Plan: 135 pts.

Criteria
Includes Interior Inspections: 10 pts.
Includes Exterior Inspections: 10 pts

Exterior Inspections:
Plan includes explanation of what is checked in the following areas: 39 pts. (3 pts. ea.)
- ventilation units
- outdoor air intakes
- garbage containers
- chimneys
- roof top
- roof downspouts and scuppers
- paint
- site drainage
- sprinkler operation
- outdoor mats
- plumbing stacks
- exhaust fans and outlets
- attic

Interior Inspections:
Plan includes explanation of what is checked in the following areas: 57 pts. (3 pts. ea.)
- temperature range
- humidity range
- air flow
- exhaust vents
- objectionable odors
- visual signs of mold growth
- signs of water damage
- cleanliness/dust
- evidence of pests
- problems/concerns from room occupants
- bathrooms - drain traps/exhaust fans
- hazardous chemicals use
- trash storage
- combustion appliances/odors
- furnaces/water heaters
- kitchen ranges
- flue components
- paint
- flooring

Includes Report of Inspection Findings: 10 pts.
Includes proposed renovations/repairs, if applicable

Presentation of Mold Prevention Plan: 9 pts. (3 pts. ea.)
Layout
Clarity
Completeness

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Delivery Strategies: