

# THE MOLD COVER UP

A very disturbing trend...



During a recent mold inspection, we ran across this (all too common) condition.,,mold painted over! In this situation it was the bank who foreclosed on this home and sent out their handymen to make the house look good so it can be quickly put back on the market for resale.

We happened to show up while the “clean up/remediators/\$5.00 an hour crew” was at lunch and found they were painting over the mold on the walls. They didn’t even take the time to wipe the heavy growth off - they just painted over it.

The problem is that this mold will continue to grow under the paint and in about 6 to 8 months start to come through the paint again. But by then it becomes the new homeowners responsibility, there's no one to go back on because it was not found prior to the purchase. The other problem is as a mold inspector and tester...we can not easily identify these conditions exist. Once painted over the mold is no longer visible, will not show up on a lift tape or swab test, nor will these mold spores be airborne for testing. A mold contractor can not be held responsible for not finding these conditions.

It is becoming all too common for banks, contractors, landlords, and sellers to try and cover up a mold conditions prior to selling or flipping a home. Once again, it’s buyer beware. Trying to find out a little history on the house is a good thing...talk to the neighbors!

## MOLD REMEDIATION PROTOCOL TIP SHEET