

## HVAC PROCEDURES:

- Drop cloths are placed inside the home or office over furniture and on the floors to keep all areas clean.
- Specifically in mold remediation in the HVAC and duct cleaning, **AFTERDISASTER** utilizes accepted protocols to include the installation of containment shields to prevent further mold contamination. **AFTERDISASTER** employs seven certified Mold Remediators.
- All vent covers are detached, cleaned with an antimicrobial and repainted in necessary.
- An access is cut into the ductwork, a 99.97% efficient High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filtered machine is attached to the HVAC unit and the vacuuming process begins.
- A 360-degree rotating brush is inserted into the ducts, dislodging debris on the interior lining of the ductwork.
- A 25-foot air nozzle is attached to an air compressor; using controlled air pressure, debris is pushed into the air passage of the HEPA vacuum unit.
- An antimicrobial is fogged through the ductwork when performing mold remediation. A soot and odor sealer is fogged throughout the ductwork when removing soot and smoke odor.
- The fan blower and coils of the unit are cleaned.
- The filter is changed.

### Indoor Air Quality Stats and Facts

**1. An EPA economic analysis of repairs performed at an elementary school showed that if \$370 per year over 22 years (a total of \$8,140) had been spent on preventive maintenance, \$1.5 million in repairs could have been avoided.**

*EPA Indoor Environments Division, Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools: Actions to Improve IAQ (September 1999)*

**2. Twenty percent of the U.S. population, nearly 55 million people, spend their days in elementary and secondary schools.**

*EPA Indoor Environments Division, Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools: Actions to Improve IAQ (September 1999)*

**3. One-half of our nation's 115,000 schools have problems linked to indoor air quality.**

*EPA Indoor Environments Division, IAQ Tools for Schools: Actions to Improve IAQ (September 1999)*

**4. Indoor levels of air pollutants can be 2-5 times higher, and occasionally 100 times higher, than outdoor levels.**

*EPA Indoor Environments Division, Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools: Actions to Improve IAQ (September 1999)*

**5. Indoor air pollution consistently ranks among the top five environmental risks to public health.**  
*EPA Indoor Environments Division, Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools: Actions to Improve IAQ (September 1999)*

**6. Poor indoor air quality can cause illness-requiring absence from school, and can cause acute health symptoms that decrease performance while at school.**

*EPA Indoor Environments Division, Indoor Air Quality and Student Performance (August 2000)*

**7. Indoor air quality can reduce a person's ability to perform specific mental tasks requiring concentration, calculation, or memory.**

*EPA Indoor Environments Division, Indoor Air Quality and Student Performance (August 2000)*

## **Asthma Stats and Facts**

**1. Approximately five million children under age 18 in the United States are diagnosed with asthma.**

*American Thoracic Society Update: Future directions for research on diseases of the lung. American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine (1998) 158:320-334*

**2. Nearly one in 13 school-aged children has asthma.**

*National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Information Survey, 1999*

**3. Over 10 million school days are missed each year by school children experiencing asthma-related problems.**

*United States. National Institutes of Health National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease. Asthma: A Concern for Minority Populations. Jan. 1997*

**4. Asthma is the most common chronic disease of childhood.**

*National Institutes of Health National Heart Lung Blood Institute. Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma.*

**5. Asthma in children has increased significantly in both numbers and severity over the past 15 years.**

*National Institutes of Health National Heart Lung Blood Institute. Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma.*

**6. The number of children under age 18 who have asthma has increased every year since 1985. In fact asthma is now at epidemic proportions worldwide, especially among school-aged children.**

*United States. Centers for Disease Control. Forecasted State-Specific estimates of Self-Reported Asthma Prevalence-1998 Morbidity and Mortality (Dec 4, 1998) 47:1022-1025.47:1022-1025.*

**7. Asthma is the leading cause of hospitalizations among children.**

*United States. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Vital and Health Statistics. National Hospital Discharge Survey: Annual Summary, 1993. (Aug. 1995) DHHS Publication No. PHS 95-1782.*

**8. Six to eight percent of children with asthma have food allergies that can trigger asthma symptoms.**

*Food Allergy News, a publication of the Food Allergy Network, Volume 6, Number 1, October-November 1996, Update on Food Allergies and Asthma, by Hugh A. Sampson, M.D.*

**9. Children with asthma make more than 2.7 million physician visits annually.**

*American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology Initiatives. Update on Pediatric Asthma: Promoting Best Practice.*

**10. Children and teens whose nighttime sleep is disrupted by asthma symptoms can have greater difficulty with schoolwork.**

*www.asthmaandschools.org*

**11. Missed sleep due to nighttime asthma can cause children to have poor recall memory, lack of concentration and mood swings.**

*www.asthmaandschools.org*

**12. Some medications have side effects that may interfere with a student's ability to concentrate or participate in school activities.**

*www.asthmaandschools.org*