

# Development

## Avoiding Indoor Air Complaints, Problems with Mold

Keep your HVAC system primed: make sure your air handling is adequate for the task; and be ready to act on indoor dampness to keep mold spore levels under control.

These were some of the recommendations from **Matt Wardlow** of CTL|Thompson, Inc. a full service geotechnical, environmental and materials engineering firm.

Why has there been an increased focus on mold in recent years? "Ever since the 1970s, building envelopes have been made tighter to save energy," said Wardlow. "While this is good for energy savings, it does not allow the building to breathe and dry out. When a roof leaks or a water line breaks, it is harder for the wet materials in the building to dry out."

Wardlow said that mold spores are everywhere and extremely beneficial to the environment. "The only place you will not find mold spores is in laboratory clean rooms. You and I are breathing mold right now. I like to tell people that if it were not for mold, there would be three feet of cigarette butts on every highway."

But when indoor building materials become wet, mold spores become amplified. If the wet condition goes undetected, it can cause problems and work into the heating and air exchange systems. "Then you may have a much higher count of mold spores inside the building rather than outside," he said.

For more information

CTL|Thompson [www.cctl.com](http://www.cctl.com)



Let us help you  
clear the air.

Do you have indoor air  
quality issues?

CTL|Thompson offers a cost effective process to address indoor air quality concerns. We apply practical investigative methods to identify the source and develop practical remedial solutions for our clients.

<b>Denver</b> 303-825-0777	<b>Pueblo</b> 719-595-1287
<b>Colorado Springs</b> 719-528-8300	<b>Dallas</b> 972-831-1111
<b>Glenwood Springs</b> 970-945-2809	<b>Austin</b> 512-832-8883
<b>Ft. Collins</b> 970-206-9455	<a href="http://www.cctl.com">www.cctl.com</a>



A LEADER IN  
GEOTECHNICAL,  
MATERIALS AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
ENGINEERING  
AND TESTING.