Proctor Creek Community Health Survey

Community members and Emory HERCULES scientists working together to address community concerns.

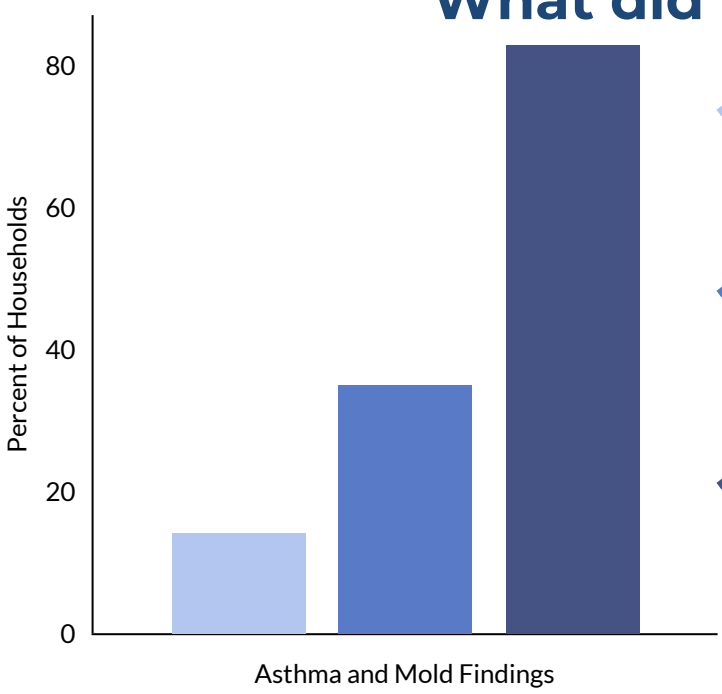
What did we want to know?

Do residents have health conditions related to dampness, flooding, or mold in their homes?

What did we do?

1. Asked 150 residents questions about conditions inside their home and their health.
2. Conducted an environmental observation of the home.
3. Collected household dust for mold testing.

What did we find?



14% of household respondents reported having asthma
In a statewide survey, 8.3% of Georgians reported current asthma.

35% of households had visible "Non-bathroom mold"
In a nationwide study of over 1,000 homes, only 1.5% had visible mold in the living room or bedroom.

83% of household dust had a "moldiness" index above 5
In a nationwide study of over 1,000 homes, only 25% had a "moldiness" index above 5.

The most important factors predicting presence of mold in the home were water leaks or a basement.

What does this mean for you?

The key to mold control is moisture control. If you live in areas with high humidity or flooding, especially if you have a basement, reduce indoor mold by
- repairing water leaks
- keeping humidity low (run an air conditioner, if possible)
- use fans in the bathroom and kitchen
- dry water damaged areas within 2 days

Helpful websites about mold:
https://www.epa.gov/mold/brief-guide-mold-moisture-and-your-home
www.fcs.uga.edu/extension/mold-safety

Join us in community efforts to reduce mold & asthma

ECO-Action
404-584-6499
www.eco-act.org/

Samantha Eiffert, Yomi Noibi, Stephen Vesper, et al. (2016) "A Citizen-Science Study Documents Environmental Exposures and Asthma Prevalence in Two Communities," Journal of Environmental and Public Health. Article ID 1962901

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