

PROMOTING HEALTHY SCHOOLS

Tips for Teachers

Do make sure your **univent** is working and bringing fresh air into your classroom.

Don't obstruct your **univent** with books and supplies. Keep furniture a few feet away from univent so air can flow.

Avoid bringing **pets and plants** into the classroom. Pets have dander. Plants have spores and their soil breeds mold. These are allergens.

Avoid using chemicals. Only use the "approved" non-toxic cleaner from the school. Don't bring in your own bug spray or pesticides; it's against the law. Use odorless, water-based markers and art supplies. Chemicals can be respiratory irritants.

Limit food in the classroom and **store it well in lid tight containers.** Have students' clean out desks weekly. Crumbs and liquids attract pests.

Report water leaks as soon as they appear. Mold can grow if wet places don't dry within 48 hours.

This factsheet was adapted from the New England Asthma Regional Council for the Boston Urban Asthma Coalition. If you need help or information about indoor air quality in your school, contact: Tolle Graham, or Isabel Lopez, MassCOSH Healthy Schools Initiative, 617-825-7233 x19.