



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY VETERANS MEMORIAL HOME AT MENLO PARK
132 EVERGREEN ROAD
EDISON, NEW JERSEY 08818-3013

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor
Commander-in-Chief

SHEILA OLIVER
Lieutenant Governor

★
LISA J. HOU, D.O.
Brigadier General
The Adjutant General

26 June 2023

Dear Residents, Staff Members, Families and Powers of Attorney,

The following is an update regarding abatement progress and prevention efforts at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park.

Environmental Design Inc. (EDI), NJ DMAVA's environmental consultant, provided results of air samples collected prior to the start of the abatement on June 8-9, 2023. As we explained in previous updates, based on Centers for Disease Control and industry guidance, the results of the pre-abatement air sampling helped confirm the appropriate abatement measures, rather than provide instructive health data.

The pre-test samples were collected in multiple rooms that are designated for remediation. Samples were also collected in other areas, including outdoors, for comparative purposes. A total of 79 pre-test air samples were collected: 67 indoor samples and 12 outdoor samples.

Please keep in mind that, as per EDI, airborne mold and fungal spores can be found in almost every outdoor and indoor environment, and their presence indoors does not necessarily indicate a problem with air quality.

EDI advises that, overall, the level of airborne mold spores detected indoors can be considered low by industry standards. EDI comparative analysis of indoor and outdoor samples indicates that the average concentration of mold spore counts present indoors ranged lower than the average concentration of mold spore counts present outdoors. As per EDI, there is no unusual airborne mold condition in the facility. In the interest of current and future resident safety, we will continue our work of performing continued inspections and replacing drywall.

In addition, Active Environmental Technologies, Inc. is continuing its abatement work on several rooms within the Liberty Wing. Our contractors, Environmental Design, Inc., will advise NJ DMAVA on the safe return of residents or any additional abatement work recommendations. We also anticipate that further air samples will be tested at the completion of the abatement work as well.

Both contractors provide a list of certifications and credentials on their respective websites:

Active Environmental Technologies, Inc: <https://www.activeenv.com/>

Environmental Design, Inc: <https://editesting.com/about-edi.html>

As previously provided, please see more from the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/indoorenv/moldtesting.html#:~:text=Appropriate%20remediation%20includes%3A%20Drying%20wetted%20materials%20within%2048,with%20proper%20containment%20when%20identifying%20mold%20on%20materials>

Please also see the following New Jersey Department of Health resource:

https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/mold/mold_guidelines.pdf

We appreciate and request the insights of all our staff, residents, family members, those designated by power of attorney, and visitors, too. Please contact lisa.kranis@dmava.nj.gov to share additional concerns.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Kranis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lisa Kranis, LNHA, MPA, CDP
Chief Executive Officer

“Serving Those Who Served”