

# Mold in Water Pipes

I occasionally get asked if it is possible for mold to grow inside of water pipes and filters. The answer is, although rare, it is possible to have mold in your drinking water. I have seen it.

Mold is a fungus that needs water, oxygen and an organic food source to thrive and survive. Typically, water lines have little oxygen and no organic food source. Also the water moves throughout the piping.

Mold is transferred through the spreading of spores which are generally airborne and can land anywhere on anything. If a well has a damaged well cap or is not properly sealed, then it is possible to contaminate the water supply.

Some water sources have higher levels of oxygen, and maybe an organic food source present. Many homeowners use in-line filters with clear housings, and paper or cellulose filter cartridges inside which are also a food source.

With a food source, oxygen and water in place, it is then possible to have mold surviving in a water supply; even from city or town water.

Your water supply should be disinfected by a shock chlorination of your source and piping to “kill” the mold. The installation of chlorine chemical-feed system or the installation of an ultra-violet light system will provide protection on an ongoing basis. You will need to ensure the UV is producing 40,000 watts per centimeter squared at the end of lamp life to kill all the molds.

<https://maysupply.com/mold-in-water-pipes/#:~:text=The%20answer%20is%2C%20although%20rare,and%20no%20organic%20food%20source.>