Water Damage Remediation: What You Need To Know

We spend thousands of dollars making your house our dream home. Over the years we spend another round of thousands of dollars to maintain the dream home. There are so many little things around the house that need attention, the list is never ending. And then there are the big ones which cannot be overlooked.

If you are a home owner and have a basement in your house, then you must be familiar with the term 'water damage'. The dreaded, unwanted and root of so many other problems. At some point you are bound to have a water leakage related problem. In fact, it is the most commonly occurring problem and every year millions of dollars’ worth of insurance is claimed just due to water related problems.

When water leaks into the basement, it creates the perfect conditions for mold growth. Mold is toxic and you are putting your family at risk if you do not deal with it soon enough.

Water related problems include leaks, damaged plumbing, cracks or leaks in the walls, weak foundation and a sump pump that has lived its full life. Spotting the leak is like finding Waldo, not too hard but not too easy. Here is what you do:

* If the basement is flooded, then the first step is to cut off power and gas supply to all the appliances in the basement.
* Find where the water has been leaking in from and patch it up nicely.
* Now for the hard part- removing the water. You could use a dry/ wet vacuum or old school it (bring in the bucket).
* If the drywall and carpets are soaked, then they need to be removed or replaced.
* Remove all the furniture from the basement.
* Air the basement out. Open all the windows and bring in fans to dry it out completely.
* Check for mold growth. If present, clean it out and sanitize it. Remember, mold is toxic.

Sometimes it could simply be one small leak and other times it could be as disastrous as broken plumbing or weak foundation.  In the case of the latter, there is much elaborate and expensive repairing involved. Get a professional to inspect the basement from time to time to ensure the well-being of your investment; it is yours to protect.

Keep your eyes open for signs of water damage and discuss waterproofing options with a professional that would best suit your basement.