

Once a flood has subsided, the house must be dried out as quickly as possible. Mold will start to grow within 48 to 72 hours. Carpets, pads and furniture that were submerged should be removed, and drywall that was soaked should be cut out and discarded. There are three methods for drying out a wet house. The most basic, is to get air circulating through it by using fans. Another method that is faster and more effective, is to use dehumidifiers. Dehumidifiers are used to remove deep imbedded moisture. If you have a wood floor, or if the framing in the walls has been saturated, a dehumidifier will pull the moisture out of the wood. Another way to dry out a house is to use the heating system along with the central air-conditioning system or window units. Warm air will hold more moisture than cooler air. So a homeowner can close all doors and windows and run the air-conditioning. Once the house has cooled and the air is dry, the air-conditioning should be turned off and the heat turned on.