

Water Mitigation vs. Water Damage Restoration: What's the Difference?

'Mitigation' and 'restoration' are two commonly used terms in the disaster relief industry. It is important for you to understand the difference between these two terms as you seek services to return your home/business to its original state.

WATER MITIGATION

Mitigation must occur before restoration can happen. 'Mitigation' is the process of making a situation less severe. Therefore, water mitigation first entails finding and stopping the source of the floodwater (before further damage is done). The home/business owner or a plumber usually does this. Water mitigation then involves a professional water mitigation company, such as JCL Restorations.

The company first identifies where the water has spread to within your home/business. To do so, they usually must remove some building materials (for example: the bottom of a wall, a piece of carpet, a floor tile) to fully investigate the extent of water damage. They then identify what materials have absorbed the water (for example: insulation, sub-floor material, walls) and how wet the materials are. This information is critical to identifying the best drying method(s) for the given situation.

If the company does *not* make a full investigation into the extent of the water damage, water could continue to spread to other structures within the home/business or cause dangerous mold to grow. In this way, investigating the water damage mitigates (lessens the severity) of the disaster situation.

QUICK CASE STUDY:

Drywall is more absorbent than concrete, therefore when exposed to water for the same length of time, the drywall would absorb more water. Professional water damage restoration technicians take this into account when deciding which machines to use and how long to use them for.

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WATER DAMAGE RESTORATION

Now that the company knows which parts of the home/business must be targeted for drying, water damage restoration can begin!



Water damage restoration first involves evaporating water from the wet damaged structures (for example: drywall) into the air, then replacing the wet, (possibly contaminated) humid air with clean, dry air. Over time, the wet structures will become dry and safe again.

The next step in restoration involves construction. When certain building materials are removed during the water mitigation process, the home/business no longer looks as it originally did. To restore the client's home/business to its original, usable state, it is likely that some construction will need to be done. Rest assured, the new finished product is just as well constructed, if not better than the original. **Let JCL Restorations walk with you from beginning to end in restoring your home/business!**