## **AREAS OF CONCERN - ON AND OFF BASE**

GENERAL INFO

We have pulled information from various websites on topics you may have questions or concerns about (or in some case, should have questions about). Whether you are on base, renting in the community, or buying a home, this information can be a very valuable to you and your family.

<u>Renter's Insurance</u> - We are often faced with questions such as 'Do I really need renter's insurance; 'What does it cover'; and 'Is it expensive'? The Military OneSource website can answer these questions and more. Ultimately, for only a few dollars your property will be covered in the event that something unexpected happens to your rental unit. <u>https://www.militaryonesource.mil/moving-housing/housing/home-disaster-planning/renters-insurance-do-i-really-need-it</u>

**<u>Recycling</u>** - Recycling is a great way to help protect the environment, reduce the depletion of natural resources and stimulate the economy. Did you know that there are a number of recycling locations available throughout the Great Falls Community? Find out what can be recycled and where you can drop it off: <u>https://greatfallsmt.net/publicworks/recycling-great-falls</u>

<u>Areas of Concern</u> - If you're currently living downtown (or on base) in a rental or you own a home, there are other areas to be concerned about, like Mold, Lead, Radon, Pesticides, Asbestos, Coronavirus... just to name a few. These topics and more can be found on the US Environmental Protection Agency website <u>https://www.epa.gov/</u>

<u>Mold</u> - Mold can be a serious matter, especially if it isn't caught early and is left untreated. There is concern out there whether or not the mold they see is fatal or harmful, there should always be some level of concern if you suspect mold in your home. The EPA website has a great Q&A's along with a ton of helpful information.

Lead or Lead-Based Paint - Lead-based paint should not be taken lightly. One of the first questions you should ask is 'was the dwelling I live in built before 1978?' If so, there is a higher potential there may be lead-based paint in the house, or on the outside of the house. This could pose a serious risk of lead poisoning, especially if you are pregnant or have small children, or renovating. Take precautions to protect you and your family.

<u>Radon</u> - Radon is an odorless, colorless, tasteless, naturallyoccurring radioactive gas formed from the breakdown of uranium and thorium. Exposure to high levels results in an increased risk of lung cancer. The greater your exposure to radon, especially if you smoke cigarettes, the greater your chance of developing lung cancer. Get the facts on how and when to test for Radon.



<u>Asbestos</u> - If your home was built before 1980, there's a high chance it may have Asbestos in it. It's best to be wise to the dangers of asbestos! It is understandable to worry about exposure to it, but it's also important to determine the different levels of exposure and the harm it can cause you.