



MeCHIPS invites you to

Forensic Home Investigations with Jeff May Jeff is a nationally recognized speaker and author. He will present information of interest to

- **Builders**
- **Weatherization contractors**
- **CAP agency personnel**
- **Realtors**
- **Radon mitigators**
- **Health professionals**
- **Home inspectors**
- **Code enforcement officers**



Date: **November 7, 2017**

Time: **10:00 to 3:00**, check-in starts at 9:00

Place: **Augusta Civic Center**

To register contact: <http://www.mechips.org/registration>

Fee: **\$50 for MeCHIPS members**
\$75 for non MeCHIPS members,
lunch included

Continuing Education credits: **4 CUEs**



About the Program:



We have all seen the dust clogged blowers, the stained ceilings, the peeling paint. What does it mean to us?

Join MeCHIPs on Tuesday, November 7 to learn from Jeff May's practical experiences in 20 years of forensic building inspections. We can all benefit from Jeff's experience to understand the relevance of what we see, the need for further investigation, the health risks to occupants, and to reduce our exposure to complaints and law suits.

Jeff's presentation will be primarily in the form of case studies of problem residences but will review first some of the principles of building science upon which the investigative methods are based. He will briefly review the results of his Comparison Study of 600 "sick residential buildings" to 300 control buildings that identifies the major culprits that make a home "sick". These culprits are very relevant to your inspection practice.

Jeff will review dozens of examples from case studies including:

- **Problematic mechanical systems** (heating, cooling, ventilation, humidification, dehumidification) as sources of mold and/or combustion products; discussion of some equipment scams to avoid, including risks of HVAC UV lamps to both equipment and people;
- **Moisture** in crawl spaces and attics; moisture problems due to construction defects; paint failures;
- **Special tools and techniques** used for investigating moisture, mold and odor problems; included will be some of the techniques that you can use to sharpen your investigative skills.
- **Problems** resulting from furnishings, personal choices and pests;
- **Odor investigations**, including testing volatile organic compounds (VOCs).
- **Bogus lawsuits**

The presentation will be illustrated by hundreds of slides of conditions, including photomicrographs of conditions that can only be visualized through microscopy.

About Jeff May

Jeff May is Principal Scientist of May Indoor Air Investigations LLC in Tyngsborough, MA. He has been investigating residential indoor air quality problems for over twenty years and has collected and examined by microscopy over 35,000 air and dust samples. He is author or co-author of four books on IAQ, all published by The Johns Hopkins University Press: *My House is Killing Me!* *The Home Guide for Families with Allergies and Asthma*, *My Office is Killing Me!* *The Sick Building Survival Guide*, *The Mold Survival Guide: For Your Home and for Your Health*, and *Jeff May's Healthy Home Tips*. He has also authored 3 articles or chapters on building science, and was featured in *The Experts' Guide to Life at Home* (S. Ettus, Clark Potter Publishers); and is co-author of a chemistry textbook.

Jeff is a former adjunct professor at the Department of Work Environment at U MA Lowell, and combines his education as an organic chemist (B.A. Columbia, M.A. Harvard) with his

experience as a teacher (chemistry and physics), general contractor and home inspector to specialize in IAQ and moisture investigations. He is a Certified Microbial Consultant (CMC, #1603014) through ACAC, a Certified Indoor Air Quality Professional (CIAQP, #340) through the Association of Energy Engineers, and is licensed as a mold assessor/inspector in NH and in FL (MRSA348). His memberships include ASHI (Retired Member 1634), IAQA, ASHRAE, American Chemical Society, and NE-IAHA. Jeff sits on the Board of the Massachusetts Association of the Chemically Injured, the Chemical Sensitivity Foundation and is a former national Board Member of the Allergy and Asthma Foundation of America.

A nationally recognized speaker, Jeff has given presentations on building problems and IAQ issues to the Boston Society of Architects, Harvard School of Public Health, the EPA, Massachusetts General Hospital, Massachusetts Association of the Chemically Injured, Journal of Light Construction's annual conference, and American Lung Association, among others. Since 2000, he has given at least ten presentations at ASHI and MIAQC annual conferences.