

## **WATER DAMAGE FLOOR INSTRUCTIONS**

**In case of an unfortunate event of water damage to your hardwood floors, please follow instructions listed below. It is very important to follow all steps and patiently wait for the results.**

**FIRST** – Remove the water from the floor ASAP with towels or rugs – use a wet vacuum if necessary.

Wood floors are tightly installed and when they gain moisture it causes the wood to expand with humongous force - when the wood expands it has nowhere to move except up – so it will push together buckle and move up – this is a normal development.

**SECOND** - Remove any heat source from the wet area of the floor – heat is your wood floor worst enemy – turn down any heat source to the minimum if possible, including forced air and radiant heating systems.

**THIRD** – Set up a minimum of two (2) air fans for a smaller area and 3 or more fans if a larger area – face fans close to the floor blowing at each other on low to medium setting. This setup will provide continuous circulation of the air to push the water vapor up into the air and foster the natural water evaporation process – **YOUR PATIENCE IS CRUCIAL** as this may take anywhere from a week to several months to fully dry the wood floor.

**By following these specific steps, you will have a 90% or higher chance the wood floor will naturally release the moisture and return to its original form and state. After the floor returns to its original state and it is fully dry it may require a stain or finish touch up or re-application of a new topcoat.**

Following the above instruction and being patient is crucial for success. Keep in mind, we never replaced the water damaged floor when the above instructions were followed.

**SUBFLOOR DAMAGE** - The subfloor will also take in extensive water which also needs to be released before the flooring can return to its original form. The subfloor moisture content may not be measured accurately as the surface may appear dry, but the moisture could penetrate to the bottom layers of the plywood or concrete subfloor. Extra drying time may be necessary for the subfloor to come back to the normal dry state.

**FLOOR ADHESIVE** – we use moisture cure adhesive for a reason – as the adhesive dries it absorbs moisture – so when water damage occurs the adhesive will not break from the surface (like chewing gum) allowing the floor to move in any direction as it may need. During drying time, the adhesive will pull back the floor into its original state and place.

**YOUR PATIENCE IS CRUCIAL FOR A SUCCESS – SO PLEASE BE PATIENT!**

**If you require additional assistance, please call us at 847.758.9600.**

