ADDITIONS TO PREMISE SANITATION REGULATIONS

SECTION X
METHAMPHETAMINE LABORATORY RULES:

10.01.01 These rules apply to homes, buildings, or other structures that have been identified by law enforcement as a former methamphetamine laboratory or identified by law enforcement as a home in which methamphetamine was smoked. These rules also apply to properties that have been tested by a reputable company or a qualified contractor to have a methamphetamine contamination of greater than 1.5ug/100cm².

10.01.02 Any home or building that was a former methamphetamine laboratory as identified by law enforcement or by a reputable company that is trained in methamphetamine identification must be professionally cleaned by a company trained in hazardous substance removal and cleanup or the property must be cleaned in accordance with the following requirements. After clean-up, the property must be subsequently tested by a reputable company or qualified contractor to have a methamphetamine contamination of no greater than 1.5ug/100cm². The structure may not be lived in or occupied until it has met this standard and obtained a release from the Health Department for occupancy.

10.01.03 Regarding multiple dwelling units such as apartments and motels, a careful assessment must be done to determine how much of a structure must be evacuated or cleaned. Adjacent rooms and common areas of multiple dwelling are presumed contaminated and must be cleaned, or sampled to rule out the need for cleaning. The property owner has the right to have the property sampled at their expense to demonstrate that remediation in not necessary. The Health Department has the authority to direct or modify a proposed sampling plan, and can accept or reject the use of a sampling method, sampling location(s), number of samples, or analytical laboratory used.

10.01.04 Regarding mobile homes and vehicles, consideration should be given to demolition instead of remediation or clean-up.

10.01.05 Please note properties cleaned-up in accordance with the Darke County Health District Methamphetamine Laboratory Rules may not remove all potential risk to human health. The rules incorporate the best practices currently available to reduce exposure to toxic chemicals used in methamphetamine production. The 1.5 ug/100 cm² standard is adopted from the California health based methamphetamine clean-up standards.
10.02 Personal Protection Standards for Clean-up:

10.02.01 The structure must be ventilated several days before cleaning. This may include opening the building’s windows and setting exhaust fans to circulate the air out of the house. The Heating & Air Conditioning system should remain off during this time. The property shall also remain off limits during this time.

10.02.02 During clean-up, good ventilation must be maintained. Clothing shall be worn to protect the skin, such as gloves, long sleeves, long pants, and eye protection during cleaning. Smoking, eating, or drinking food is not permitted during the cleanup process. Outer clothing shall be removed upon exiting the property and prior to entering any vehicle to prevent cross contamination. The clothing shall be placed in a trash bag and properly disposed.

10.02.03 A half-face cartridge respirator may be necessary during remediation under the following circumstances: (1) If adequate ventilation cannot be achieved (e.g., in very cold weather), (2) During the use of solvent cleaners or sampling materials, (3) While removing carpeting and other highly contaminated materials.

10.02.04 If suspicious containers or lab equipment is found, the items must be left in place and law enforcement must be contacted immediately.

10.02.05 If syringes are found, individuals must be careful when handling these items. If a person is accidentally pricked, they should contact their health care professional immediately. Syringes must be placed in a sharps container or a solid plastic container such as a laundry detergent bottle. The container must be labeled “sharps” and may be disposed of with regular trash. Blood stained materials may also be disposed in the trash so long as they are double bagged in two heavy duty plastic bags and the amount is less than 50 pounds.

10.03 Premise Clean-up Standards:

The following standards apply in areas where the cooking, preparation, and/or smoking of the finished product were performed:

10.03.01 Any surface that has visible contamination or staining must be completely removed and discarded. This could include removal and replacement of wallboard, floor coverings, and counters.

10.03.02 Furniture, appliances or building materials with obvious non-removable stains (i.e., contamination) must be discarded prior to clean up. Items must be destroyed to prevent re-use; wrapped and sealed to prevent contamination of other areas.
10.03.03 All carpeting, carpet pads, drapes, upholstered furniture, mattresses, paper items, books and other porous contents must be removed and discarded. The items must be cut apart or otherwise made unattractive to scavenging. Large plastic furniture and large plastic goods must be discarded.

10.03.04 Low value contents and unnecessary items must be removed from the property and disposed of properly.

10.03.05 Clothing with visible staining or contamination must be discarded so as not to be re-used or salvaged. All other clothing if kept must be washed twice with an empty load ran before using the washing machine again. Clothing that cannot be washed such as “dry clean only” clothing must be discarded. Dry-cleaning these items could contaminate other people’s clothing.

10.03.06 It is recommended dishes, flatware, and other hard non-porous household goods be disposed. With approval of the Health Department, household items such as glazed ceramics, metals, and glass may be twice-washed and rinsed using detergent and hot water. Any items that show evidence of use for meth cooking (e.g. acid etching, chemical staining) must be discarded.

10.03.07 All appliances, electronics, and tools that show visible signs of contamination must be discarded in a manner to prevent re-use (salvaging). Large and small appliances that could have been used in the production of meth or the storage of meth products (such as refrigerators, stoves, ovens, microwaves, hotplates, toaster ovens, coffee makers, etc.) must be discarded.

10.03.08 At the discretion of the Health Department, high value, low-contact appliances, tools, and electronics can be washed twice with a hot detergent solution and clean rinse water, or cleaned by alcohol wiping (use adequate ventilation). Exterior surface must be tested to have a meth concentration <1.5 ug/100cm².

10.03.09 High value, hard surface contents and porous surfaces to be kept (as allowed by the Health Department) must be vacuumed with a HEPA vacuum and washed. If they cannot be washed; then, at a minimum they must be vacuumed with a HEPA vacuum if they are not discarded.

10.03.10 All electrical outlet covers and wall switch plates must be replaced.

10.03.11 Acoustic ceiling tiles, suspended or attached, must be removed and disposed. “Popcorn” ceilings may contain asbestos. A licensed asbestos inspector must collect and submit samples of the ceiling “popcorn” for asbestos testing. If asbestos is present and the ceiling is intact, the best option is to leave the ceiling in place and seal with a sprayed on asbestos encapsulating product. Sealing will also satisfy meth remediation requirements.
10.03.12 The floors shall be vacuumed with a HEPA vacuum after removing the carpet and padding. All floors, walls, and surfaces must be vacuumed with a HEPA vacuum prior to washing with a detergent solution. If the flooring or sub-flooring is a porous material, such as cork or unfinished wood and cannot be washed, the flooring must be removed and discarded.

10.03.13 Ceilings, walls, floors, windows, non-porous furniture and other items that will be kept must be washed with a detergent-water solution, rinsed with water, and then wiped down with a cloth rag. This must be done three times. Each time new rags should be used and discarded afterwards. Any surface with stains should be considered contaminated and removed instead of cleaning.

10.03.14 Bleach shall not be used in the cleaning process as it may interact with methamphetamine.

10.03.15 Wastewater may be disposed of in the wastewater system or sanitary sewer system.

10.03.16 Rooms shall be cleaned sequentially from one end of the structure to the other sealing off each room as they are cleaned to prevent cross contamination. Rooms shall be sealed off with at least 4-mil plastic sheeting.

10.03.17 Once a surface is cleaned, it must be repainted using a primer coat with a high gloss latex paint or oil based paint, which is the preferred method. It is also preferred the paint be sprayed on and not brushed or rolled. Floors may be encapsulated using polyurethane. A primer that will not deteriorate over time must be applied first in order to provide a firm bond between the surface and the finish coat.

10.03.18 Ventilation system: All air filters in the system and any flexible ductwork must be replaced. Vents, the surfaces near system inlets and outlets, and the systems ductwork must be cleaned. If the ductwork has insulation on the inside, all the duct system will have to be removed. This system shall not be run until all other clean up is complete.

10.03.19 Plumbing: Visibly contaminated (etched or stained) sinks, bathtubs and toilets must be removed and must be disposed of properly. Porcelain and stainless steel, unless pitted or damaged, may be cleaned in the same manner as other hard, non-porous surfaces. Flush plumbing traps. If chemical odors are detected from the plumbing system after the system is flushed, parts of the plumbing system may be required to be replaced. Any plumber working on the system must follow precautions listed in rule 10.02 for personal protection.
10.04: After Clean-up Requirements

10.04.01 After cleaned, the structure must be aired out for 5 days. Submit documentation of clean up to the Health Department. This documentation shall include, but not limited to: the dates the clean-up occurred and the people/ companies who performed the work; before and after pictures, receipts of materials used in clean up (if property owner is doing work), disposal records, certification statement from property owner, and certification statement, testing results (including sample locations), and documents from reputable company indicating that the clean-up is complete. Certification statement shall include a list of items removed from the structure; a list of surfaces or items cleaned on-site; the method of cleaning used, and surfaces painted.

10.04.02 The Health Department may conduct site visits at any point in the clean-up process or prior to issuing occupancy to the home. Post remediation sampling may be required. The Health Department may also require third-party confirmation sampling of all remediation. All sampling will be done at property owner expense.

10.05 Additional Requirements:

10.05.01 At the time a property is identified by law enforcement as a former methamphetamine laboratory or identified by law enforcement as a home in which methamphetamine was smoked, the property will be labeled as such and included on a listing published on the Health Department’s website. The listing will indicate the location, condition, and status of remediation.

10.05.02 Before signing an agreement to sell or transfer the property, the seller must disclose in writing to the buyer that the property had been a meth lab or dump site and must disclose the status of the remediation.

10.05.03 A home building or structure may not be occupied until it has been remediate in accordance with the methamphetamine laboratory rules and obtained a release from the Health Department. The home will be considered condemned as unfit for human habitation as in accordance with Section 6.4 of the Premise Sanitation Regulations.

Other additions/ changes to premise sanitation regulations:

Section 4.06.02

No home, building, or structure that has been identified by law enforcement as a former methamphetamine laboratory or home in which methamphetamine was smoked, may be occupied or inhabited until it has met the requirements of the Methamphetamine Rules, Section X of the Darke County Premise Sanitation Regulation.
Section 4.07.04

All properties, including structures, shall be maintained in a condition satisfactory to the Health Department at all times.

Change to 4.05.02 from:

Exterior property areas and accessory structures shall be free from health, fire and accident hazards, hazardous wastes, and vermin, insect and rodent harborage and conditions which create a nuisance.

To read:

Exterior property areas and accessory structures shall be free from health, fire and accident hazards, hazardous wastes, and vermin, insect and rodent harborage, unnecessary items that are non-functional or no longer used, and conditions which create a nuisance.