



To: Stakeholders - Methamphetamine and Fentanyl Clean Up

From: DEQ Methamphetamine Cleanup Program

Date: September 18, 2026

Subject: Guidance Methamphetamine and/or Fentanyl Volunteer Properties

In August 2026, the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) were amended to require volunteer properties (a.k.a. opt-in properties) to follow a process to obtain a Certificate of Fitness. This is a new requirement driven by Senate Bill 201, passed by the 69th Montana Legislature in 2025.

What is a volunteer property?

Section 75-10-1302(5), MCA, defines the term "volunteer property" to mean an inhabitable property meeting the following criteria:

- the property owner has become aware of contamination with hazardous chemical residues from consumption of methamphetamine or fentanyl;
- the property has not been reported by law enforcement pursuant to 75-10-1306(1); and
- the property owner has elected to follow processes to meet the decontamination standard in 75-10-1303 to receive certification from the department that the decontamination standard has been met.

What is the process?

The owner of a volunteer property seeking to obtain a Certificate of Fitness from DEQ shall comply with the requirements in ARM 17.74.506 for an assessment plan, decontamination work plan, and final clearance plan. The requirements for recordkeeping, reports, and submittals are located in ARM 17.74.520.

Why follow the process?

Many property owners want official acknowledgement from DEQ that a property has been sufficiently cleaned up to meet the decontamination standard. DEQ accomplishes this by issuing a Certificate of Fitness. ARM 17.74.504(2) defines a Certificate of Fitness as a certificate issued for an inhabitable property by DEQ confirming that the property meets the decontamination standards provided in ARM 17.74.505.

Who can do the work?

Assessment, decontamination, and final clearance work must be completed by a certified cleanup contractor. A "certified contractor" means any person certified by DEQ to perform the assessment or remediation of inhabitable property or volunteer property contaminated by methamphetamine or fentanyl residues pursuant to 75-10-1302, MCA.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Please reach out to DEQ's Methamphetamine Cleanup Program (MCP). We can be reached at:

Email: DEQMethCleanupProgram@mt.gov

Phone: 406-444-5300