

# HOLLY-GRAPE MERCURY ST GEORGE, UT

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CRAIG MYERS – FEDERAL ON-SCENE COORDINATOR



# RESIDENTIAL MERCURY IN THE AGE OF COVID 19

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- August 24, 2020 – UT DEQ request
- Resident broke an old thermometer, DEQ unable to assess
- Home:
  - Carpet
  - Single level
  - No basement
  - Concrete floor/slab on grade



# INITIAL RESULTS



- ERT mobilized from Las Vegas
- Initial screen shows
  - 3,200-3,500 ng/m<sup>3</sup> throughout the home
  - 4,500+ ng/m<sup>3</sup> in bedroom
- OSC had ERT staff seal the floor area with tape and a trash bag
  - Reduced the levels in the home to between 100 and 300 ng/m<sup>3</sup>

# SITE CONCERNS

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## NON-COVID

- Elderly couple
- Can't vacate – need the bed and other accoutrements
- (Very) Limited mobility
- Presence in home limited work hours and complicated the clean-up

## COVID19

- Elderly couple – at risk population
- Can't vacate – increased risk to couple from crew in home
- Crew has to enter their occupied home to do the work...and it can't wait.

# CLEAN UP

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- ERRS mobilized from Salt Lake City
- Due to mobility issues, tried to avoid carpet removal
- Day 1
  - Attempted Merc-X and Hg-vac of carpet
  - End of day, not much improvement
  - Resealed carpet
- Day 2
  - Continued Merc-X powder/wipes and vacuum along with heat/vent cycles



# CARPET REMOVAL (LIMITED)

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- By Day 3, heating/venting and vacuum not showing any improvement
- Limited carpet removal guided by Lumex.
- Post removal, levels in home well below 1,000



# LIMITED MOBILITY

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- Carpet installs are challenging
- difficult to get a measurement
- Installations are very limited
  
- Installed an ugly temporary patch to maintain grade



# LESS LIMITED CARPET REMOVAL

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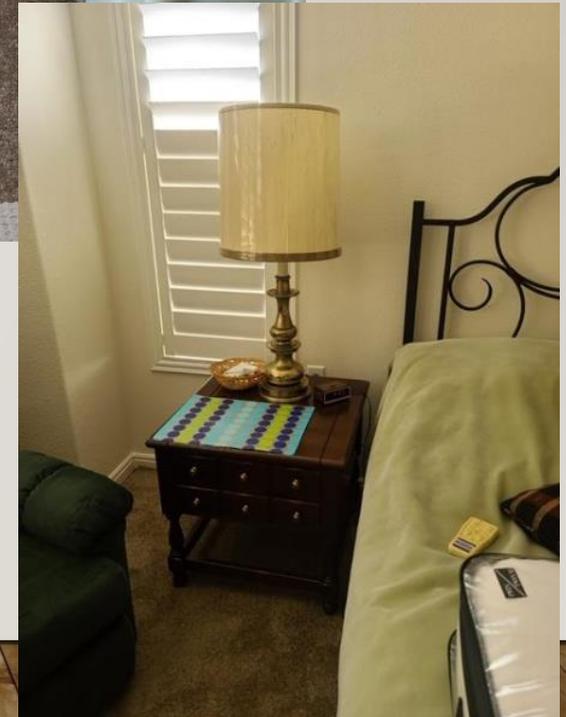


- Crew returns to do clearance, levels in the home back above 1,000 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
- Area below nightstand
  - Was near non-detect the day prior
  - well over 5,000 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
- Additional carpet removal
- Epoxy sealant on the cement slab
- More methodical screening on all “moveable” items

# RESOLUTION

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- Passed final 8 hour clearance with
  - ~300 ng/m<sup>3</sup> average
- Temporary patch (larger)
- Credit with local carpet installer to schedule full replacement
  - COVID conditions
  - Special mechanical bed I didn't want  
ERRS to touch...



**QUESTIONS (IF WE'RE DOING THAT)**

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