

METH LAB TRASH

Methamphetamine is made in illegal laboratories and has a high potential for abuse and addiction.

Methamphetamine is closely related chemically to amphetamine, but the central nervous system effects of methamphetamine are greater. Street methamphetamine is referred to by many names, such as "speed," "meth," and "chalk." Methamphetamine hydrochloride, clear chunky crystals resembling ice, which can be inhaled by smoking, is referred to as "ice," "crystals," "glass," and "tina."

Over 300 different chemicals can be used in the production of the drug depending on the procedure used. The waste can be disposed of in many different ways, sometimes on the side of the road. The following reviews some of the waste generated by Methamphetamine Labs:

1. Plastic pop/juice/water bottles with tubing coming out of the top.
2. Propane cylinders (typical of gas grills) used to transport anhydrous ammonia. This ammonia can burn your skin and cause very severe respiratory damage. These tanks, when used with the brass fitting, can explode when moved. The ammonia degrades the brass to the point where it can blow the fitting out of the tank, endangering individuals in the area. The brass fittings on the tanks will turn a blue to blue green color as shown in the picture on the next page. Some tanks have been modified with other fittings. If you find cylinders, DO NOT touch them, but note the location and report it to the nearest law enforcement agency.
3. Coffee filters with red stains/powder or white residue.
4. Empty medicine boxes and blister packs for over the counter cold and asthma medicines (products that contain ephedrine or pseudoephedrine).
5. Lithium batteries that appear to be unrolled.
6. Bags containing a reddish/white powder.
7. Respirator masks.
8. Rubber gloves.
9. Plastic or rubber tubing, hoses, and clamps.
10. Pyrex glass, corning ware, or other glass cookware.
11. Bed sheets or pillowcases stained red or containing a white powdery residue.
12. Engine starting fluid cans (punctured and drained of ethyl ether).
13. Empty drain cleaner containers (lye).
14. Kitty litter.
15. Empty bottles of 'rubbing alcohol', acetone, toluene, or paint thinner.
16. Empty cans of Coleman/Camping fuel (naphtha).
17. Empty containers of sulfuric, muriatic, or phosphoric acid.

If you come across what appears to be meth lab waste, DO NOT touch it, and report the location to your supervisor and local law enforcement agency.

Outdoor Methamphetamine Lab Hazards

Watch Out For:



Flammable solvent in large containers or with other waste. May include camping fuel, paint thinner, engine starter fluid, Heet, paint thinner.

Large quantities of glass and plastic containers, buckets, plastic hose.



Any containers with "bi level" liquids or residue.

Batteries that have been opened to get the lithium strips.



Any containers with plastic tubing or hoses.

Syringes found in dump site area.



Quantities of coffee filters or paper towels with unusual, often reddish stains.

Light bulbs found near dump site area.



Drain openers, muriatic acid, Red Devil Lye, Crystal Drano, iodine, hydrogen peroxide, isopropyl alcohol.

Trash bags with an ether, solvent or ammonia odor.



Propane tanks with painted or corroded brass fittings.

If you find a meth lab trash dump... ***Leave it alone and report it!***