

Formula for Disaster

METHAMPHETAMINE

WARNING!

Community Health Care and Social Workers

Illegal Manufacturing of Dangerous Drug Puts Workers at Risk.

Michigan Public Health and Law Enforcement officials are warning Michigan health care and social workers to be on the lookout when approaching houses in their community—structures that could be housing clandestine cooking operation for highly dangerous illegal drug, Methamphetamine.

The activities and conditions associated with the cooking of Methamphetamine are extremely dangerous and highly toxic putting community workers at risk. Clandestine cooking sites are prone to explosions, fires, and toxic waste contamination. Anyone coming into contact with a cooking site can face instant serious injury, death, or health risks from collapsed lungs, burns, or other injuries associated with contamination or explosions.

Community workers may also face individuals using or under the influence of Methamphetamine. These individuals can be highly dangerous and unpredictable.

What to Look for:

Warning Signs or Indicators of Methamphetamine Cooking Operations:

- Strong/strange odor coming from inside a house/trailer—especially closed up or boarded up structures
- Windows in a structure that are open all day/night, including winter
- Fans running in windows to ventilate air
- Gas tubing coming out of windows/doors
- Presence of propane grill tanks, gas cans, tubing, glass canning jars, coolers.
- Trash that includes coffee filters, lithium batteries, acetone, cold tablet packages, plastic hoses, iodine, starting fluid cans, and lye packages.
- Unusual traffic all hours of the day and night
- Occupants who act suspicious, paranoid, easily upset
- Occupants who appear very gaunt, skinny, having a hollow-look in their eyes

What to Look for:

Warning Signs or Indicators of Methamphetamine Use:

- Individuals who act suspicious, paranoid, easily upset, elevated levels of extreme anger, aggression, delusions, hallucinations, and paranoid schizophrenia
- Individuals who appear very gaunt, skinny, with a hollow-look in their eyes
- Individuals with decaying or lost teeth, bad body signs of not eating or sleeping in days, binging
- Individuals showing signs of burns (chemical burns resulting from the use of anhydrous ammonia, red phosphorous, ether, starting fluids)

What to do:

As mentioned, Methamphetamine clandestine cooking sites are extremely unstable and dangerous. Community workers unexpectedly entering a Methamphetamine cooking site can—without warning—be exposed to serious health risks including injury and death from chemical explosions and fire. They can also experience Methamphetamine user's displaying extreme rage, suicidal thoughts, and schizophrenia.

DO NOT attempt to enter the site of a suspected Methamphetamine cooking operation, or try to detain anyone associated with Methamphetamine. Instead, **IMMEDIATELY CALL YOUR SUPERVISOR AND 911, or the NEAREST LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.**

Suspicious activities can also be reported to the Michigan State Police Methamphetamine Tip Line

1-866-METH TIP

All calls remain anonymous and confidential.
Tip line available, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Additional information regarding this bulletin and Methamphetamine Training:



Michigan Department of Community Health
Office of Drug Control Policy
517/373-2952
www.michigan.gov/meth



Michigan State Police
Criminal Investigation Division
517/336-6221
www.michigan.gov/msp