

Meth fact: Many of the toxic chemicals used to produce meth are colorless and odorless.

DISCRETE DESTRUCTION?

Methamphetamine labs (meth labs) are highly hazardous laboratories that can go undetected for months or even years. Yet the impact meth labs have on the environment is anything but discrete. They can be located on the outskirts of town or next door to you.

There are many dangers associated with meth labs, including explosions and exposure to odorless, toxic vapors. The contamination caused by the methamphetamine production process is directly linked to changes in the air we breathe, the water we drink and other factors in the environment. Provided below is a small list of typical chemicals found in a meth lab site:

Ammonia
Benzene
Ether
FreonHydrochloric acid (Hcl gas)
Muriatic acid
Phosphine gas
Red phosphorus
Sodium hydroxide
Sulfuric acid
Liquid lab waste

All of these chemicals are poisonous; half are explosive and half emit toxic vapors. These all could be used to produce meth in your neighborhood, be aware of the signs.

If you or someone you know has a problem with meth, there is hope for recovery! Please call Information and Referral Services at (520) 881-1794

Join the Meth Free Alliance today!

The Meth Free Alliance is committed to reducing the negative impact of methamphetamine at all community levels through legal, legislative, grassroots, and personal action, and through active partnerships in the Tucson/Pima County area.

Only when we work together can we become part of the solution!



Meth Free Alliance

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**HOW METH
AFFECTS OUR
ENVIRONMENT**



METHAMPHETAMINE... THE NEIGHBORHOOD TOXIC DUMPSITE

Methamphetamine causes more problems than increased crime and substance abuse. Meth labs have created a dangerous environment by unleashing a number of toxic compounds into the air and water putting communities in grave danger.

The production of meth endangers our environment. For every pound of meth produced, six pounds of toxic waste is made. This toxic waste is dumped in drains affecting the water supply; on soil affecting plants and animals, and near homes affecting you and your family.

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Meth labs are also considered to be dangerous because of their mobility

THAT FRESH METH AIR

There is more danger to meth than the drug itself. The toxic gases and fumes created during the production process pose a great threat to your health and you may never know you are being exposed to these chemicals. Irritation of the skin, eyes, and respiratory system has been reported following short contact with meth labs. The symptoms range from simple allergic reactions to blisters in the throat and nose, sometimes requiring hospitalization. Exposure to corrosive compounds results in burns. More serious symptoms, such as cancer and neurological problems, can develop with increased exposure to a lab.

Meth fact: Exposure to toxins in former meth labs can be dangerous to your health



TICKING HOUSE BOMB!

Imagine having a neighboring house instantly engulfed in flames. Without warning, it endangers you and your family. Meth labs are highly flammable and can bust into flames in an instant!



SPOT THE SIGNS & REPORT DANGER

Here is a partial list of signs to recognize if a methamphetamine lab is in your neighborhood:

- Lots of traffic, people stopping at house for only a few minutes, day and night.
- Excessive trash on property, including large amounts of such items as antifreeze containers, lantern fuel cans, and red chemically stained coffee filters, drain cleaner and duct tape.
- Unusual, strong odors, similar to cat urine, ammonia and fingernail polish remover.
- Residence's windows blacked out.

If you suspect any suspicious activity in your neighborhood please report it to
**The Department of Public Safety at
(520) 547-8800.**