

Westminster Area



"Building a Community Without Drugs"

March 2004

EARLY DETECTION AND ACTION CAN SAVE A LIFE

And we're not talking about cancer or heart disease.

We're talking about your child's drug or alcohol use. Teens who use drugs risk damaging their developing minds and bodies – and face the possibility of addiction. How, and when, you respond to your teenager when you suspect or find out he is using drugs could have a serious impact on his future.

When should you take action?

Common sense tells us that addressing a problem early can help keep it from getting out of control and doing serious harm in our lives. This principle also holds true when it comes to drug and alcohol use among kids. Research shows that the earlier a kid uses marijuana or alcohol, the more likely they are to become dependent on drugs or alcohol later in life.

Though use does not always end in addiction, addiction always begins with a decision to use. If you suspect your teenager has tried drugs or alcohol, then you know that your son or daughter is at a critical crossroads.

Experimentation is a big deal -- marijuana is more potent than it was when you were young -- and shouldn't be accepted as a rite of passage.

What you do matters.

So, even though their drug or alcohol use might feel like the toughest issue you've ever faced, addressing it could be the most important thing you do.

Get informed and take action early.

Signed,

American Academy of Pediatrics
American Medical Association
Child Welfare League of America
Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America
National Families in Action
National Family Partnership

National Fatherhood Initiative
National Medical Association
National PTA
Parenting Coalition International
Partnership for a Drug Free America

**PARENTS.
THE ANTI-DRUG**

**For free information, visit the antidrug.com
Get information on How to Take Action, Get Past the Fear, Signs and Symptoms,
How to Start the Conversation**

Or Call 1-800-788-2800 or 303-429-2228

NORTH METRO TASK FORCE

Excerpted from www.mntf.us

What we don't know can hurt us. We have a Meth epidemic in our state. One of the primary goals of this web site is to educate, inform and increase the awareness of the dangers of clandestine Methamphetamine labs. Everyone is at risk and the more you know, the safer you will be.

Environmental Impact

For every pound of Methamphetamine manufactured there are five to six pounds of toxic waste produced. Manufacturers need to dispose of the waste, so what do they do?

- Drive around with it in their cars looking for a place to dump it
- Toss it alongside roads and highways
- Dump it in our parks and forests
- Bury it so it leaches into the groundwater
- Flush it into the sewer system where it works its way to the water department
- Give it to the individuals who pick up our trash
- Leave it hotels and public storage facilities for innocent victims to find

The environmental impact of this waste is devastating. Keep in mind these byproducts are flammable, explosive, toxic and in some concentrations, lethal!

What to Look for in your Neighborhood

There are many signs of Methamphetamine manufacturing and some are more obvious than others. These are the types of things to look for:

- Large quantities of empty cold medicine containers. Cold medicines contain Pseudo Ephedrine or Ephedrine which is the basic ingredient in Methamphetamine manufacturing
- Unusually large amounts of matches
- Strong odors of fuel or ammonia
- Windows covered up with plastic or tin foil
- Hoses hanging from windows
- Large numbers of empty chemical containers
- Chemistry equipment
- An unusual number of cook stoves or hot plates
- Accumulations of waste
- Discoloration of structure, pavement, or soils
- Bottles in a refrigerator or freezer where fluids and solids have separated

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APTS