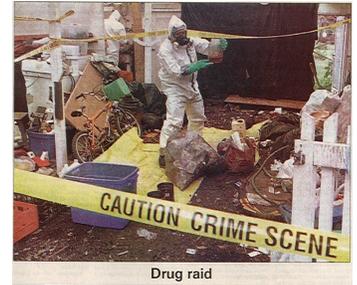


### Meth Lab Awareness Clues

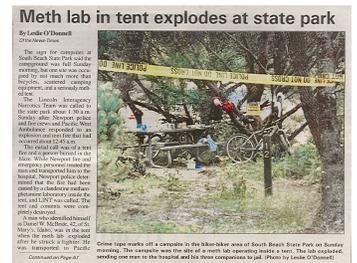
Signs of a methamphetamine lab include large quantities of common household products. Used as designed and directed, these household products are generally safe. Mixed together, they can become explosive and/or give off toxic fumes.

#### Some of the chemicals commonly associated with a meth lab:

- Acetone
- Alcohol (denatured, isopropyl or rubbing)
- Anhydrous ammonia or ammonium sulfate (fertilizer)
- Battery acid (sulfuric acid)
- Bleach
- **Cold or allergy pills containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine**
- Coleman camping fuel (naphtha)
- Drain cleaner (sulfuric acid)
- Drain cleaner (sodium hydroxide), such as “Red Devil” lye
- “Heet” or “Iso-Heet” gasoline additive (methanol or methyl alcohol)
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Iodine (crystal or liquid tincture)
- Lithium batteries
- Matches (source of red phosphorous from striker plates)
- Mineral spirits (methyl chloride)
- Muriatic acid (hydrochloric acid) (driveway/brick/pool cleaner)
- Salt (table or rock)
- Sodium or lithium metal
- Starting fluid (organic ether)
- Trichloroethane (gun cleaning solvent)
- Toluene



Drug raid



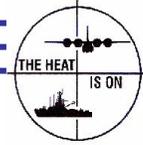
#### Some of the equipment commonly associated with a meth lab:

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aluminum foil</li> <li>• Blenders</li> <li>• Bottles (pop, water, milk)</li> <li>• Chemistry glassware</li> <li>• Camp stoves</li> <li>• Cheesecloth</li> <li>• Coffee filters</li> <li>• Cotton balls</li> <li>• Dust Tape</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electric hot plates</li> <li>• Funnels</li> <li>• Garden spray jugs</li> <li>• Gas cans</li> <li>• Hot plates</li> <li>• Jugs</li> <li>• Paper towels</li> <li>• pH test strips</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plastic tubing</li> <li>• Pressure cookers</li> <li>• Propane tanks</li> <li>• Pyrex dishes</li> <li>• Rags</li> <li>• Rubber and latex gloves</li> <li>• Strainers</li> <li>• Thermometers</li> <li>• Thermos bottle</li> </ul> |
|---|---|---|

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### Residential and Building Clues

#### Some clues that might indicate the possible illegal production or sales of drugs:

- Access denied to landlords, neighbors, and other visitors
- Chemical staining on walls and floors
- "Cooks" that have no visible means of support, but make cash purchases and payments
- Covering or blacking-out of windows
- Security measures, such as cameras or baby monitors outside of buildings
- Unusual traffic and activities, such as excessive night traffic, large numbers of visitors with short stays
- Burn pits, stained soil or dead vegetation indicating dumped chemicals or waste
- Waste in trash, pits or illegal dumps, such as:
  - Rags with red and/or yellow stains
  - Large quantities of packaging from ephedrine or pseudoephedrine cold, diet or allergy pills
  - Empty containers from the chemicals listed above
  - Compressed gas cylinders, or camp stove (Coleman) fuel containers
  - Packaging from Epsom salts or rock salt
  - Propane tanks or coolers containing strong ammonia odors
  - Pyrex/glass/Corning containers, with dried chemical deposits remaining
  - Bottles or containers connected with rubber hosing and duct tape
  - Coolers, thermos bottles, or other cold storage containers
  - Respiratory masks and filters or dust masks
  - Funnels, hosing and clamps
  - Coffee filters, pillow cases or bed sheets stained red (used to filter red phosphorous), or containing a white powdery residue
- Apartments, houses or buildings that smell like chemicals, including sweet, bitter, ammonia or solvent smells

#### If you suspect a meth lab, leave at once and report it

- **Do not open any coolers, container or boxes!**
- **Do not touch any items!**
- **Handling meth lab chemicals or meth lab waste residue can burn your skin or eyes, and breathing in the gases or fumes can cause severe respiratory damage or death!**



[www.oregondec.org](http://www.oregondec.org)

*Special thanks to Sgt. Eric Schober,  
Meth Lab Coordinator, Portland Police Bureau,  
for his valuable assistance in preparing this updated information*



[www.co.lincoln.or.us/lint/](http://www.co.lincoln.or.us/lint/)



[www.oregonmethwatch.org](http://www.oregonmethwatch.org)

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