

Facts

- *An estimated 50% of meth labs are found on rental property.*
- *The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has not issued standards for meth lab clean-ups. It is the property owner's responsibility to ensure and determine the habitability of a structure that has been used as a clandestine lab.*
- *The Drug Enforcement Administration estimated an average of \$3300 in 2002 to clean up a meth lab.*
- *Oftentimes, court costs alone can far outweigh the cost of cleaning a lab, if a child or tenant gets sick.*



**Greater Cincinnati & Northern Kentucky
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Increasing Your Awareness.

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Awareness.*

**Crystal Meth On
Your Property**



*The danger of
Methamphetamine
labs...*

Methamphetamine Labs: Knowledge and Awareness



Methamphetamine is a Schedule II controlled substance, having little medicinal value and a high potential for abuse. It is a powerful central nervous system stimulant. It is sold illegally in pill form, capsules, powder, or chunks and may be snorted, smoked, injected, or taken orally. Among other effects, use of crystal meth damages the brain and increases the heart rate, blood pressure, body temperature, and rate of breathing. High doses and chronic abuse are associated with increased nervousness, irritability, and paranoia.

Crystal meth is a relatively simple drug to produce. It can be manufactured using common inexpensive and readily-available household products. There are several techniques used to produce crystal meth, however, all of the processes use a variety of chemicals including explosives, solvents, metals, salts, and corrosives. The fumes, vapors, spillage, and waste produced when the drug is manufactured (cooked) can be toxic.

Meth Labs on Rental Property

Meth labs pose serious problems for rental property owners. Among these are a loss of rent, a decline in property values, damage of property, civil penalties, dangerous and threatening tenants, resentful and angry neighbors, and the potential loss of other valued tenants.

Preventing Meth Labs

At the time of rental application, be sure to:

- Accept only an application that is filled out completely
- Conduct background checks, including rental history, credit report, employment history, and criminal background.
- Meet every adult and require picture identification
- Be aware of odd, suspicious behavior



Children are especially susceptible to the poisonous chemicals in meth labs.

Visit the property often and make staff aware of meth lab indicators:

- Blackened windows, drawn curtains
- Frequent visitors at all hours
- Paranoid, odd behavior
- Extensive security
- Chemical odors
- Orange Igloo coolers - when tenant is unemployed

Watch for excessive garbage specific to meth lab manufacturing, including:

- Over-the-counter cold medications
- Packaging from “pep” pills
- Rock salt
- Brake fluid & fuel injector cleaner
- Propane gas tanks w/corroded nozzles
- Lithium battery strips
- Pool or battery acid
- Respiratory masks, gloves
- Mason or Ball jars
- Coffee filters
- Lighter fluid
- Dirty, brown baby diapers—without kids around

If you suspect you have a clandestine lab, do not approach it. Many laboratories have traps set up and chemical processes that should not be disturbed.

Call the Regional Narcotics Unit for an immediate response:

(513) 352-3673

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