

TRAINING & EDUCATION

KDHE and KBI's goal is to educate first responders, chance encounter occupations, retailers, and the general public about the hazards of drug labs. These same citizens can also notify law enforcement of illegal activity and help stomp out drug activity in Kansas.

First Responders

KBI, KDHE, and/or EPA provide law enforcement personnel 40-Hour Hazardous Material Drug Lab Training and 8-Hour Refreshers courses. Other first responders are provided a variety of awareness training classes.

Chance Encounter Occupations

KDHE and KBI host awareness classes at conferences, farm shows, and individual training sessions to help educate workers that may encounter a drug lab while at work. These occupations include: farmers, road department crews, utility crews, social workers, hotel/motel employees, wildlife and park officials, etc.

Retailers

KDHE teamed with a group of retailers to design a program aimed at reducing the sale or theft of common drug lab precursor items. The resulting program is called the Kansas Retailer Meth Watch Program (Meth Watch). Meth Watch provides visibility for the program and teaches employees the common precursors, product management techniques to prevent the availability of excessive amounts of precursors, and a method of reporting suspicious transactions. Signage used

includes cash register sticker, shelf danglers, front door decals, break room posters, etc. A training video is provided to retail stores to assist with training of the store clerks and management.

Shelf Dangler



Cash Register Sticker



Training Poster



Please visit our web site at:
www.kdhe.state.ks.us/methlabs



KANSAS CLANDESTINE DRUG LAB PROGRAM

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KANSAS CLANDESTINE DRUG LAB PROGRAM

Program Overview



Kansas
Department
of Health &
Environment



INTRODUCTION

Methamphetamine (meth) clandestine drug labs have been popping up in rural and urban areas across the State of Kansas. The Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) and Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) are working together to combat this unwelcomed business. The Chemical Control Act was passed on July 1, 1999, initiating an education, notification, and response cleanup program for clandestine drug labs. KDHE's Clandestine Drug Lab Program is managed by the Bureau of Environmental Remediation's Response Unit in Topeka, Kansas.

REGULATED NOTIFICATION

The Chemical Control Act requires that manufacturers and distributors contact the KBI if one of the following occurs with a regulated chemical: 1) An extraordinary quantity is purchased or unusual method of payment or delivery is requested, 2) a sale is made to a person whose identity has been provided by KBI, or 3) an unusual or excessive loss or disappearance is identified.

VOLUNTARY NOTIFICATION

KBI and KDHE are also working with retailers, chance encounter occupations, and the general public to voluntarily report unusual activity, sales, theft, and/or discovery of lab wastes. KDHE and KBI's goal is to prevent drug labs and eventually reduce the illegal sale and use of drugs in Kansas communities. Voluntary notification helps serve as the eyes and ears for Kansas law enforcement.



DRUG LAB RESPONSE

Drug labs have the potential to contaminate drinking water supplies, soil, and air causing a health risk to nearby residents and the environment. Vapors at meth labs can be highly explosive and can cause a multitude of health problems.



KDHE's cleanup is conducted to ensure the safety of the citizens of Kansas and our natural resources.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

KDHE's drug lab response is available to all law enforcement agencies in the State of Kansas provided the following conditions are met: 1) Search warrant/destruction order is obtained, 2) Qualified drug lab trained law enforcement personnel are on site, and 3) assurance that an EPIC form will be completed within 2 working days.

CLEANUP REQUEST

Once the above-mentioned conditions are met a cleanup request is made to KDHE. KDHE requires a cleanup crew arrive on site within 4 hours of the request, except for a few counties in the far western part of the state or during inclement weather conditions. Typically the law enforcement agency provides KDHE with a time that evidence collection will be complete and the hazardous material (hazmat) crews will be ready to start material inventory, handling, and disposal.

The drug lab precursors and contaminated materials are segregated into hazardous material, suspected hazardous material, non-hazardous solid waste, and non-hazardous liquid waste. The material is prepared for



transport to one of three KDHE hazmat storage buildings. Hazardous and suspected hazardous materials are characterized at the hazmat buildings and consolidated into DOT-approved storage containers prior to shipment to a TSD facility. Non-hazardous wastes are disposed at a municipal solid waste landfill (solid waste) or wastewater treatment facility (liquid waste).

ANHYDROUS AMMONIA

Anhydrous ammonia is typically handled on site due to the dangers associated with handling the product. The anhydrous ammonia product is mixed with water to create a mixture that is safe to handle and easy to dispose. KDHE's hazmat contractor is capable of handling containers of ammonia that cannot be easily emptied into a water bath. The contractor uses a remote controlled



system that can puncture a steel walled container, yet seal the hole to prevent an unacceptable release of

product. Containers are placed in an ice bath to ensure the internal pressure is below 90 psi. After the container is emptied the metal is taken to a recycler.