

Litter Pick Up Safety Tips



General safety tips:

- Volunteers must wear a safety vest and gloves.
- It is recommended to wear closed-toed shoes
- Be aware of your surroundings and watch for vehicles.
- Look out for Poison Ivy. It is active year round.
- Do not pick up anything that makes you uncomfortable.
- Be careful picking up glass and other sharp objects. Hold the trash bag away from your body to avoid getting cut.
- If a needle is found put inside an empty bottle or container that you find and put in the bag. If there is a large quantity of needles do not attempt to pick them up.
- If something is labeled explosive, toxic, harmful, or corrosive do not pick up and notify the volunteer coordinator.
- Be aware of mobile meth labs. Do not touch them as they may be active. If signs of one are found notify the volunteer coordinator immediately.
- Wash your hands following the cleanup

Signs that a Mobile Meth Lab may be present:

- Unusual odors (ether, ammonia, acetone, or other chemicals)
- Excessive amounts of trash, particularly chemical containers, coffee filters, pieces of cloth that are stained red, and duct tape rolls
- Evidence of chemical waste or dumping

Identifying a Mobile Meth Lab Waste:

- Flammable solvent containers
- Boxes of battery fluid
- Drain openers, muriatic acid, or lye
- Large quantities of glass, plastic containers, buckets, plastic hose
- Discarded coolers
- Propane tanks with painted or corroded brass fittings
- Paper towels and coffee filters with unusual stains
- Trash bags with ammonia odor
- Common cold pills or diet pills containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine
- Iodine, hydrogen peroxide, isopropyl alcohol
- Homemade pipe fittings on tanks

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Hazards Associated with Mobile Meth Lab Contact:

Chemicals used to produce mobile meth labs are extremely hazardous. Some are highly volatile and may ignite or explode on contact. Being exposed to the toxic chemicals used to produce the drug poses a variety of health risks. These health risks can include:

Inhalation: inhaling chemical vapors and gas from mobile meth lab production can cause shortness of breath, cough, chest pain, intoxication, dizziness, nausea, disorientation, and other respiratory problems.

Skin Contact: contact with chemicals used to produce mobile meth lab can cause serious skin burns.

IF YOU FIND OR THINK YOU HAVE COME IN CONTACT WITH A MOBILE METH LAB, CALL THE BCSO AT (865) 983-3620