

## Volunteer DON'Ts

### Individuals:

Don't pick up the following:

- Abandoned barrels
- Chemical containers
- Hypodermic needles
- Unidentifiable containers
- Broken automotive batteries
- Bulging or dented containers
- Containers leaking unknown substances
- Weapons
- Pesticide or herbicide containers
- Narcotics
- Paint cans
- Dead animals
- Sharp objects
- Gas cans, oil or antifreeze
- Toxic or hazardous items

Don't overstuff bags

Don't attempt to move large objects such as rusted car shells, old household appliances or swing sets; call your local fire or police department to report meth lab litter, illegal dumping or any other hazardous situation

Don't bring pets to events, as they may distract participants or even detract from the cleanup

Don't overdo it physically

Don't forget to have fun!

### Group Leader:

Don't schedule cleanups during peak pedestrian or traffic hours

Don't conduct cleanups during extremely inclement weather (if possible)

Don't conduct cleanups near or around construction sites or heavy traffic areas

## PARTNERS on METHAMPHETAMINE LITTER AWARENESS TASK FORCE

Brochure produced by:



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Nebraska  
DEQ

# METH LAB LITTER



## and SAFETY RULES

**Keeping  
volunteers safe  
and healthy  
during litter  
cleanups**

## COMMON METHAMPHETAMINE LAB WASTE



Cold/allergy medicine packaging



Bottles or containers connected with rubber hosing or duct tape;  
Empty containers from: Heet, antifreeze, ether, starting fluids,  
Freon, lye, drain openers, paint thinner, acetone, or alcohol



Coffee filters (or sheets) with white  
pasty or powdery or red substance



Coolers, thermos bottles, or  
other cold storage containers



Propane tanks

*Photos courtesy of Nebraska State Patrol.*

### Other potential meth lab littered items to be aware of:

- Compressed gas cylinders or camp stove (Coleman) fuel containers
- Packaging from epsom salt, rock salt, iodized salt or table salt
- Pyrex/glass/Corning containers with dried chemical deposits remaining
- Respiratory masks and filters or dust masks
- Funnels, hosing and clamps

### WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND ANY POTENTIAL METH LAB LITTER:

Move away from the area and call 911 or \*55 on your cell phone or your nearest law enforcement office. **Do not touch or smell any potential meth litter items!**

## Volunteer DO's

### Individuals:

- Wear gloves and thick-soled, closed shoes
- Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts
- Wear safety vests or bright colors for roadside cleanups
- Wear sunscreen and bug repellent
- Drink plenty of fluids
- Be aware of your surroundings and the potential hazards associated with them (e.g., passing cars, poison ivy, meth lab litter products, etc.)
- Use the "buddy system." Work in teams of two or three to maximize safety
- Keep pre-moistened towelettes on hand
- Wash hands with antibacterial soap after cleanup
- Bag litter to meet local regulations
- Take an occasional break
- Supply flotation devices or life vests if appropriate for waterway cleanups
- Take before, during and after pictures to document your work!

### Group Leader:

- Be aware of all known allergies of volunteers before participation
- Know emergency procedures, such as the location of the nearest emergency facility and how to quickly summon the police or an ambulance
- Have a first aid kit and cellular phone on hand
- If possible, have someone trained in CPR and/or First-aid on hand
- Provide adequate adult supervision if you involve youth groups in litter removal
- Reconvene every hour to make sure that all participants are accounted for, safe and enjoying the cleanup if going into a heavily wooded or large area