



Dealing with Deadly Drug Labs

July 7, 2011

Noxious gases, chemical burns, fireballs.

Every day is an adventure. Unfortunately drug lab fires are happening more and more these days. And they can happen anywhere – homes, RVs, woods—anywhere. If your team gets called to such a fire there are many things you must keep in mind. Understanding issues like multi-agency incident protocol and even lab booby-trap awareness is imperative for a successful response. You may not even know you're walking into a property containing a drug lab so you also need to trust your instincts....

Trust Your Instincts (Fire Chief, December 2010)

The below TCFP Library resources will help your department in preparing to fight drug lab fires. Click the titles below to reserve your copy now:

CLANDESTINE DRUG LABS: MULTI-AGENCY AWARENESS & OPERATIONS

AV09-2368 Length: 60:00 Format: VHS Author: MEDIA RESOURCES

This training program on clandestine drug labs covers aspects of multi-agency awareness issues as well as operations issues. The first video, on multi-agency awareness, defines clandestine drug labs, explains how to identify illegal drug lab operations, illustrates the three major dangers associated with drug labs, and explains ways of avoiding drug lab dangers. It classifies chemicals found in these labs according to the nine UN/DOT hazard classes, explains how personnel can be contaminated by these chemicals and how to avoid contamination. The second video covers operations and discusses the importance of and responsibilities of interagency cooperation in dealing with these situations. It details the responsibilities of police, firefighters, and EMS personnel in dealing with a raid on a known drug lab as well as how to proceed when encountering a drug lab during routine operations. It discusses the need for other agencies involvement such as DEA, state crime lab, environmental or risk management personnel. It stresses the importance of developing interagency emergency pre-plans and SOPs. A study guide accompanies the videos. (1990)

CLANDESTINE METH LABS

AV08-2282 Length: 60:00 Format: VHS Author: FETN This American Heat video takes a look at two departments that deal with clandestine methamphetamine labs. One department is a mostly volunteer department in rural Missouri and the second is a career department in urban Washington state. Both tell of their experiences and explain how they train, manage their resources, and work together with law enforcement when handling meth labs. It also covers how to identify the components of a meth lab, the chemical processes used to 'cook', and the hazards responders face. The program follows a clandestine lab team as they process an actual meth lab that was discovered after it ignited. This video also contains the program 'Radiological Monitoring Part 4: Measuring Instruments'. A study guide accompanies each program. (2002)

KITCHENS OF DEATH: CLANDESTINE LABORATORIES LAW ENFORCEMENT VERSION

AV96-0562 Length: 30:00 Format: VHS Author: CALIFORNIA A.G. OFFICE

Clandestine drug laboratories are a serious and growing problem for law enforcement. This training video supplies basic survival information every beat cop needs to know. Segment one provides an introduction to clandestine laboratories, Segment two covers detection and location, and Segment three covers booby traps and hazards.

KITCHENS OF DEATH: CLANDESTINE LABORATORIES

AV00-1271 Length: 15:00 Format: VHS Author: CALIFORNIA A.G. OFFICE

This video provides the facts you need to know about the risks and hazards of these illegal and dangerous 'backyard labs'. This video introduces labs, shows how to detect and locate labs, and discusses the booby traps and hazards encountered. It also discusses how to handle labs encountered by law enforcement or citizens. This video is suitable for professionals and general viewers

RESPONSE TO ILLICIT DRUG LABS

AV07-2063 Length: 60:00 Format: DVD Author: EMERGENCY FILM GROUP

The manufacturing process at meth and other illicit drug labs can result in hazardous chemical reactions, explosions, and harm to the environment. This program presents the various forms of methamphetamine; the response to active labs, boxed labs and dump sites; chemicals and equipment typically found at clandestine labs; hazards and risks encountered during lab raids; personal protective clothing and equipment needed by responders; and decontamination issues and disposal of recovered hazardous waste. This training program includes a PowerPoint presentation on CD. (2007)

For assistance in choosing training materials, or to make recommendations for additions to the library, please contact Laura Bucaro, the commission librarian at (512) 936-3833, via e-mail at laura.bucaro@tcfp.state.tx.us, or visit the Emerson Library at the commission's headquarters facility during regular business hours.



Need more information or training?

If you need more information on drug labs, or any emergency related research, REMEMBER that our Librarian is here to assist you. Contact Laura Bucaro at 512-936-3833 or email her any time.

TX Dept of Public Safety offers Clandestine Drug Lab classes offer FREE.

Check out the upcoming classes today.