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[www.forensic-applications.com/meth/ayrescoreview.pdf](http://www.forensic-applications.com/meth/ayrescoreview.pdf)



## METH LAB CLEAN-UP ASSESSMENTS

A methamphetamine laboratory is typically not a large, permanent facility. The ingredients are common and generally easy to come by, so a lab may be set up nearly anywhere. In Colorado, labs have been discovered in the country, in small towns and in the largest cities, in homes, apartments and motels. In fact, Meth can be made in makeshift labs small enough to be stored in a suitcase and set up anywhere.

Being in or near a Meth lab is extremely dangerous. The toxic nature of the ingredients leaves behind hazardous waste - six pounds of residue are generated by each pound of Meth manufactured. It costs an average of \$2,500 to clean up a Meth lab, but costs can run as high as \$10,000.

When the ingredients are combined, they can ignite, causing explosions, fires and the release of toxic fumes. Many times, the waste material is dumped outdoors, causing irreparable damage to the environment and drinking water. Vapors seep into plaster and wood. Harsh liquids that are dumped or spilled can remain for a long time as residue in bathtubs, toilets or sinks. Environmental Testing Company conducts meth lab assessments to determine the presence or absence of Methamphetamine (meth) contamination, solely for the owner's information. If Meth is determined to be present the State of Colorado requires a full assessment by a Certified Industrial Hygienist. Mr. N. Douglas Ayres CIE, provides Meth Lab Decontamination training throughout the U.S. for remediation companies. Each state has different Meth Lab decontamination laws with different standards of cleanliness. Please contact ETC for more information.



### Learn the signs of a potential Meth lab to protect your family and your property from catastrophic damage:

- A strong smell that might resemble urine or an unusual chemical smell like ether, ammonia or acetone.
- Little or no traffic during the day, but lots of traffic at extremely late hours.
- Extra efforts made to cover windows or reinforce doors.
- Residents never putting their trash out.
- Lab materials surrounding the property (lantern fuel cans red chemically stained coffee filters, clear glass jugs and duct tape).
- Vehicles loaded with trunks, chemical containers, or basic chemistry paraphernalia - glassware, rubber tubing, etc.
- Laboratory glassware being carried into the residence.
- Inhabitants smoking outside due to fumes.

If you see evidence that makes you suspect a Meth lab, call law enforcement immediately and explain your concerns. Do not attempt to gather evidence on your own, and never handle any materials that may be associated with a lab.