

*West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources
Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities*



Behavioral Health is Essential to Health

Prevention Works



Treatment is Effective

People Recover



Improving the quality of life for West Virginians with behavioral health needs

Bath Salts

Presented by

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Funded by:

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Learning Objectives

This session will help the participant:

- **Increase awareness about the impact of bath salts use/abuse in WV**
- **Recognize signs and symptoms and appeal of bath salts use**
- **Identify the drug and packaging as well as the dangers of use/abuse**
- **Increase knowledge of local resources for treatment**

Why we all need to be concerned with Bath Salt use in WV...



Bath Salts abuse and problems associated with abuse, are increasing at an alarming rate.

- 2009- **NO** CALLS TO POISON CONTROL CENTER REGARDING BATH SALTS
- 2010- **303** CALLS (WV REPORTED 4)
- 2011- **5625** CALLS (WV REPORTED 253)
- 2012- **WV HAS REPORTED 15 (JANUARY 1-APRIL 11)**

Bath Salts



- What is it?

- Bath Salts are synthetic stimulant drugs
- VERY DANGEROUS addictive and potentially lethal
- More potent than cocaine
- Not organic-made with chemicals
- They do not contain fragrant soaps or oils, yet they are packaged to seem so

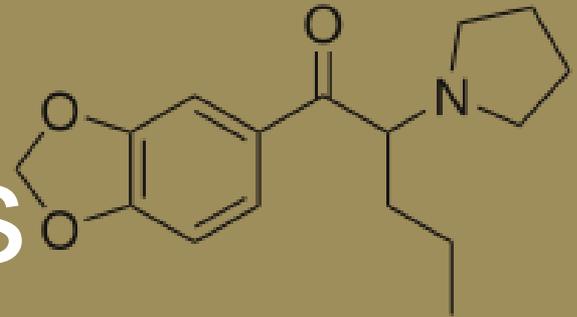
Bath Salts



- What do “Bath Salts” look like?
 - Crystallized powder that can be white to brown, with shades in between and even speckled.
 - Typically an attractive package about the size of a tea bag.
 - The label says “Not for Human Consumption”.
 - Manufactured mainly in China or India.



Bath Salts



WHAT'S IN IT?

According to 2010 Drug Enforcement Administration...

- Active ingredients in Bath Salts: Methylenedioxyprovalerone (MDPV) and/or mephedrone
- MDPV and mephedrone are synthetic -and addictive-chemicals



Bath Salts Ingredients

- MDPV (methylenedioxy-pyro-valerone)
- CFT (cocaine analog)
- mephedrone (amphetamine)
- cathinone (khat)
- naphyrone (like amphetamine)
- 2-dPMP (2-diphenylmethylpiperidine or desoxypipradrol)(like methylphenidate)



SLANG NAMES for Bath Salts



- Insect repellent
- Pond scum remover
- Jewelry Cleaner
- Plant food
- Toy cleaner
- Legal Cocaine



Names on Bath Salts Packaging

Aura

Bliss

Bloom

Blue Silk

Bolivian Bath

Charge +

Charge Plus

Cloud 9

Cloud Nine

Euphoria

Ivory Coast

Ivory Wave

Lunar Wave

Ocean

Ocean Snow

Pure Ivory

Purple Wave

Raving Dragon

Hurricane-Charlie

Red Dove

Scarface

Sextacy

Snow Leopard

Stardust

Tranquility

Vanilla Sky

White Dove

White Lightning

Zoom

How Much do Bath Salts Cost?



- Prices range from \$25 to \$50 for 50 mg or ½ gram – depending where bought.
- Some use up to 200 mg. depending on their tolerance for drugs
- Users say: “use 10th of what you would use for cocaine”
- Lots of stories about being careful about using too much can cause a really bad experience.

Package Size



Pictures provided by Lt. Thomas J. Reagan
Bangor Police Department

Where can it be purchased?

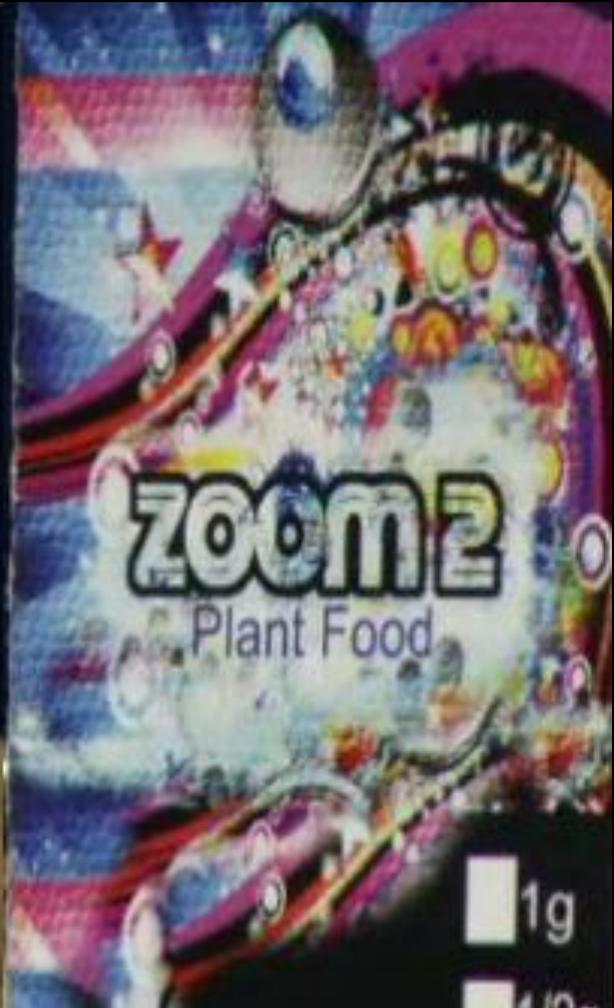
- Internet as bath salts and/or “legal high”
- Some local shops hide it behind the counter (convenience stores)
- Head shops



Common “home” packaging



Pictures provided by Lt. Thomas J. Reagan
Bangor Police Department



Pictures provided by Lt. Thomas J. Reagan
Bangor Police Department



Why are Bath Salts a Problem?

Nationally, Poison Control Centers in the US have reported an alarming rate.





Because “bath salts” are relatively new to the drug abuse scene, scientists are still unsure about what their long-term effects might be for those who try to use them recreationally. But one thing IS certain: it’s NOT worth the risk of finding out.

Demographic Prevalence



- Males and females
- Ages early 20s to 50s
- Seeing more and more young men in their 20s and increase in females
- Teenager use on the rise

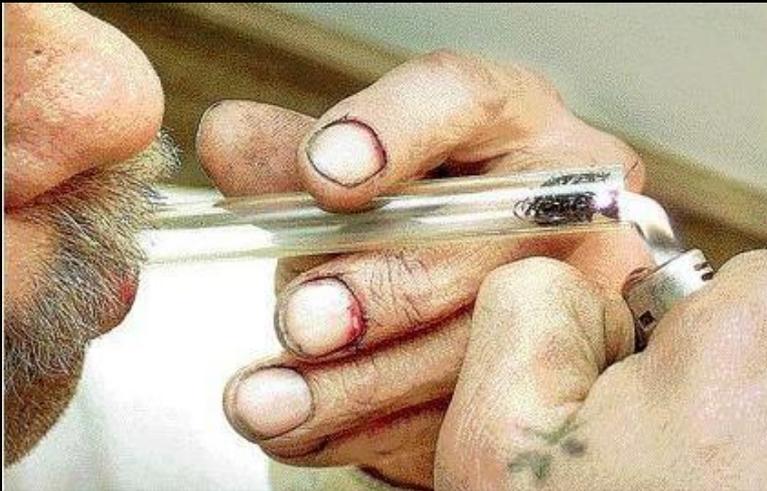
How are Bath Salts Used?



**CAN BE USED IN A
VARIETY OF WAYS
USUALLY IN LIQUID
FORM
HOWEVER...**

Smoked

- By soaking cigarettes
- With a crack pipe
- Off foil



Snorted



Injected



dreamstime.com

“BATH SALTS” SIDE EFFECTS

200 times MORE potent than
Ritalin



Bath Salts Symptomology



- Paranoia
- Hallucinations
- Anger
- Intense cravings to re-dose
- Intense thirst
- Loss of coordination
- Dry mouth
- Panic/anxiety
- Vomiting
- Dizziness
- Profuse Sweating
- Hyper alertness
- Violence
- Elevated Blood pressure
- Jaw clenching/tooth grinding (Bruxism)
- Delusions
- Mood swings
- Depression
- Suicidal thoughts



Other Adverse Effects



- Suicidal thoughts and actions
- Self mutilation
- Running around, screaming
- There is no crash – effects can last for days and wax and wane over the time
- Paranoia can be extreme – think someone or something is out to get them – weapons have been involved – guns, knives, hatchets, etc.

What to Look For

- **Agitation with or without violence**
 - May be catatonic (lights on – no one home)
 - May get violent after catatonic state with little to no warning
- **Paranoia, yelling**
- **Large pupils (not always)**
 - “The Stare”
- **Sweat and thirst**

What to Look For

- **Jerky body movements**
- **Grinding of teeth**
- **Euphoria and stimulation for hours**
- **Psychotic for hours to days or longer**

If someone you know has used bath salts...

- Call 9-1-1
- Safety at scene – be on the alert for weapons and sudden violent outbursts
- Patients need benzodiazepines: Versed® and Ativan® and lots of them.
- Patients may also need Antipsychotics Zyprexa® and Haldol®.
- Restraining patients can be problematic – leading to muscle breakdown

“Not for human consumption”

- In the US today, it is illegal to sell MDPV and mephedrone for human consumption. Yet for now, “bath salts” are still sold legally in most states. Why?
- The answer lies in four little words:
Not For Human Consumption.
- Because “bath salts” are marked with this deceiving label, authorities must prove that they are being sold as psychoactive drugs, not as harmless bath potions, before their sale can be outlawed.

Labeling



“NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION”



Printed warning loophole to evade scrutiny from Food and Drug Administration (FDA)



That's why manufactures pretend that they are "bath salts, plant food, or water softeners". But think about it: since when does plant food or bath powder cost \$50 a milligram?

While these labels may offer a temporary loophole to those who sell "bath salts" the same is NOT true to anyone using these drugs to get high.

In 2010, the DEA reported that MDPV and mephedrone were "related in chemical structure" to illegal drugs like Ecstasy, cathinone and methamphetamine. In other words "bath salts" are essentially analogs, or chemical cousins, to illegal drugs.

“This is an emerging health threat that needs to be taken seriously.”

-Alvin Bronstein, Director
American Association of Poison Control Centers

Legislators across the US are working swiftly to pass laws to reclassify “bath salts” – and their active chemical components – as federally controlled substances. For now, the DEA has added these products to their “drugs of concerns” category.

West Virginia House Bill 2505

SUMMARY:

Adding synthetic cannabinoids and hallucinogens and stimulants to the Schedule I list of controlled substances (K2)

What does this mean?

Now a misdemeanor to sell, buy, possess the synthetic drugs in W.V.

This bill was passed by both House and Senate and approved by the Governor in April 2011.

DEA Bans Bath Salts



Sept 8, 2011-American Association Of Poison Control Centers commended the U.S. DEA for banning the chemicals used in synthetic drugs labeled as “bath salts”.

Problem is, the drug is being produced in clandestine labs such as Meth. Most recipes now include derivatives of the banned chemicals, thus, getting around legislation.

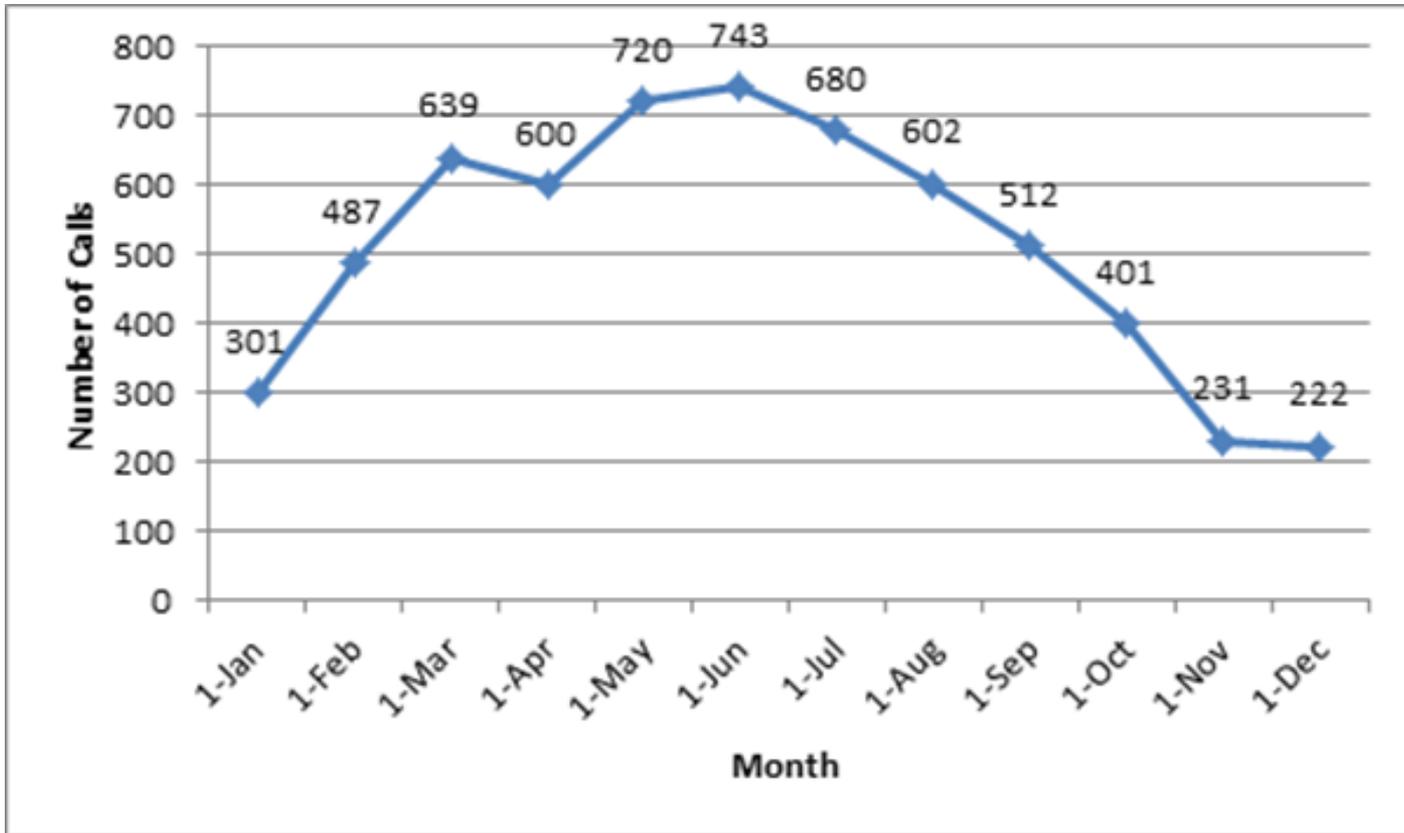
Mark Ryan, Director of the LA Poison Control Center stated he was concerned about the extreme paranoia being reported by people who are taking these drugs. They are being touted as cocaine substitutes and are causing intense cravings akin to methamphetamine use. He stated that he is worried that this acute paranoia could cause people experimenting with this drug to harm themselves or others.

Think again..



**YES, ITS IN OUR
“BACK YARD”.**

2011 National Bath Salt Calls By Month



FOR EXAMPLE:

- **Currently Harrison County, WV has the highest reported exposure to “bath salts” in the United States according to calls to Poison Control. They have had more calls in 6 months than some states have had all year.**
- **There have been numerous deaths, car accidents, arrests, mental commitments, crimes and CPS calls due to “bath salts” in West Virginia.**

- “Last week an Alum Creek man told police he was high on bath salts when he was charged with stabbing a neighbor’s pygmy goat while wearing nothing but women’s underwear. Mark L. Thompson, 19, was charged with cruelty to animals.” -
Huffington Post April 2011

- “Just in March, they've investigated four deaths linked to bath salt and more than 10 overdoses.” - State Police Sgt. Andy Perdue
- “CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- A Nicholas County man told sheriff's deputies he was high on "bath salts" when he allegedly tried to break into the home of a deputy early today. – Sunday Gazette

“CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- A Kanawha County judge on Thursday ordered the owner of a Jefferson novelty shop to close his doors while police investigate whether more than \$100,000 in items seized from the store during a raid last month are illegal.

Circuit Judge Duke Bloom ordered store owner Kenneth Holliday to cease operations while sheriff's deputies determine if the chemicals contained in hundreds of packages confiscated during a May 19 raid at his Secret Pleasures store match chemicals recently outlawed by state lawmakers.” – WV Gazette

But, what can I do?



- Don't feel helpless!
- Become educated about synthetic drugs
- Talk about it with neighbors, relatives, and co-workers
- The best prevention is setting clear expectations and guidelines for your kids and kids you know.

They will listen...

TALK ABOUT IT!



- Get the word out about “bath salts.” Contact your local Drug Free Coalition and ask them to have a forum or a community presentation.
- Get articles out in your local news papers.
- If someone you know experiments with “bath salts” don’t hesitate to get professional help.

Works Cited



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- Bangor Police Department, Bangor, ME
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<http://www.maine.gov/dps/mdea/>
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American Association of Poison Control Centers – www.aapcc.org

Drug Enforcement Agency – www.justice.gov/dea/index.htm

National Institute on Drug Abuse – www.nida.nih.gov/drugpages

Office of National Drug Control Policy – www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov

House Bill 2505 -

www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill_Status/Bills_history.cfm?input=2505&year=2011&sessiontype=RS&btype=bill



The information in this presentation was gathered from the American Association of Poison Control Centers, a brochure by HRM, as well as several WV Newspapers.

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