

What are Synthetic Drugs

Synthetic Drugs such as “2C-E”, “Plant Food”, “K-2”, “Salvia”, and “Bath Salts” have quickly become a dangerous and growing problem in Winona County and throughout the State of Minnesota. Synthetic drugs are artificially produced chemicals and while known as party drugs for teenagers and young adults, every age group has experimented with them.

Legislators have worked vigorously to pass bills making it illegal to possess and sell these drugs. On May 24, 2011, Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton signed the Omnibus Drug Bill which adds “2C-E”, “2C-1”, “Plant Food”, and “Bath Salts” to the list of Schedule I controlled substances in state statute. Beginning July 1, 2011, sale or possession of these drugs will be punishable by the full range of penalties up to and including a felony.

Actual Reactions to “Plant Food”

Winona has experienced “Plant Food” reactions including the following:

- Jumping off roofs
- Shooting into empty cars
- Severe hallucinations of people with weapons and animals chasing you
- Seeing your heart beat outside your chest
- Losing 30-40 pounds in one or two months
- Getting lost in your own neighborhood



**THIS BROCHURE PROVIDED COURTESY OF:
WINONA COUNTY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL
WWW.WINONACOUNTYJCC.ORG
(507) 454-7770
REV. 6/22/11**

Synthetic Drugs

What Are They?



For more information visit:
<http://www.winonacountyjcc.org/cjccinitiatives/syntheticdrugs.html>

Synthetic Cannabinoids

Synthetic Cannabinoids are a Synthetic Marijuana commonly called “K-2” or “Spice”. It is a mixture of herbs and spice plants that are sprayed with an experimental psychotropic drug giving it effects similar to marijuana. Users of Synthetic Cannabinoids may smoke it from a pipe, blunt or joint. It may also be brewed as a tea.

Side Effects

The side effects of Synthetic Cannabinoids include severe agitation, vomiting, dangerous increase in heart rate and blood pressure, hallucinations, tremors, and seizures. In severe cases it has caused individuals to black out and develop catalepsy, which is a nervous system condition causing stiffening of the muscles.



Salvia Divinorum

Salvia is a perennial herb in the mint family. It gives users hallucinations similar to those caused by LSD, which lasts for about 15 minutes. Users may smoke Salvia in pipes, chew the fresh leaves or brew it as a tea. Salvia became an illegal substance in 2010.

Side Effects

The side effects of Salvia include dizziness, slurred speech and lack of coordination.

MDPV (Methlenedioxypropylvalerone)

MDPV, commonly referred to as “Bath Salts,” actually has no relation to real bath salts. MDPV gives users similar effects as to methamphetamine or ecstasy by increasing the users alertness and by giving them feelings of euphoria or sensory awareness. Users may snort MDPV, intravenously inject it, or mix it with food or drink.



Side Effects

The side effects of MDPV include hypertension, vasoconstriction, insomnia, nausea, stomach cramping, bruxism, increased body temperature, chills, pupil dilation, headaches, kidney pain, tinnitus, dizziness, overstimulation, difficulty breathing, and agitation. High doses and extended use can cause prolonged panic attacks.

2C-E

2C-E is a central nervous system stimulant that causes hallucinations lasting 5-10 hours. Users will orally snort 2C-E or intravenously inject it. If injected, the hallucinations can begin before the user is done injecting the drug.

Side Effects

The side effects of 2C-E include increased heart rate and body temperature, change in perception of time, difficulty focusing, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, confusion, overstimulation to music, paranoia, and spiritual experiences.

Mephedrone

Mephedrone’s common street name is “Plant Food”, but it has no relation to actual plant food. It is a white to yellowish powder that can produce similar effects as ecstasy or cocaine. Users may snort the powder, intravenously inject it, or mix it with food or drink. Many users are “bombing” or “parachuting” the drug by taking it and placing it in a capsule or rolling it in paper and then swallowing it.

Side Effects

The side effects of Mephedrone include sore nasal passage, throat and mouth caused by chemical burns after snorting, heart palpitations, blurred vision, hot flashes, irregular or racing heart beats, and muscle tension in the face and jaw. It also may cause potential brain damage similar to those damages caused by amphetamine use. These effects may include headache, seizure, stroke, vasospasm or vasculitis.

