

## Dangerous drugs hidden, sold as bath salts

An influx of highly hallucinogenic, potentially lethal but - in most states - fully legal drugs sold as "bath salts" has law enforcement and drug abuse experts very concerned.

This is not something where people are using ordinary bath salts you can find anywhere to get high. These are bath salts specifically laced with powerful drugs and they can be very deadly,

Young people high on these drugs are dying, or suffering major psychological and physical problems.

The \$15 to \$20 packets are available in corner stores, truck stops and on the internet, and marketed as bath salts or sometimes plant food and come with the (often-ignored) disclaimer, "not for human consumption." They're not subject to a regulation even though they contain various potent chemicals, including mephedrone, which is a stimulant. The bath salt drugs are laced with man made drugs designed to mimic LSD, marijuana, methamphetamines, or ecstasy.

The "salts" come with gentle-sounding names like Ivory Wave and Vanilla Sky and are typically snorted, smoked, injected and even mixed with water as a beverage.

If you take the worse of some of the other drugs -- LSD and Ecstasy with their hallucinogenic-delusional type properties, PCP with extreme agitation, superhuman strength and combativeness, as well as the stimulant properties of cocaine and meth -- if you take all the worst of those and put them all together this what you get.

The products have been linked to suicides, and hospitalizations. Once a user gets to the emergency room, they're not controllable with normal sedatives such as valium, even in high doses. Users who survive are left with depression, anxiety, or paranoia.

The cravings are so intense, users often go back to the drug.

"Bath salts", nick named "The Synthetic Cocaine" provides an immediate rush leading to hallucinations. These "bath salts" were never intended for baths and are manufactured for the sole purpose of getting high. Manufactures bypass the FDA by labeling the product not for human consumption. Since the drug isn't on the DEA list of banned substances, and because it's not for human consumption they get around the law.

They are powerful, but not yet illegal substances and because they are created on the black market, no one really knows what is in them.

The prime demographic for bath salts is teens to young adults, 14 to 24 years old. These young people are using them and they are risking their lives.

Parents should have a long talk with their kids about these bath salts. Remember, these are not well-known brands of bath salts, these are bath salts that you might find in a mini-mart, a head shop, or on the internet.

Recently, "bath salts" have claimed the life of a young Crystal Beach resident. Parents it is [HERE!](#)