



Making the Best 4-H Clubs Better –Version 2.0

Keeping Community Service Safe

These are signs of meth lab trash and other unsafe litter. Never pick up or touch these items. If found, stay back and call 911 and report the site. Such discarded materials can burn the skin and if inhaled, can damage the lungs.

- **Any propane cylinders** (from gas grills) – propane cylinders with brass fittings that are blue/green in color or have been modified. These are used to transport anhydrous ammonia and can explode.
- **Medicine boxes, empty pill bottles, blister packs** – medicines like Sudafed and some diet pills are used in meth-making.
- **Pill residue** (pinkish putty like substance)
- **Respirator masks**
- **Rubber gloves**
- **Rubber hoses and clamps**
- **Sheets and pillowcases stained pink or red**
- **Corning wear, Pyrex, or other glass containers with rubber hoses attached**
- **Syringes and/or needles**
- **Weapons**
- **Dead animals**
- **Water bottles with yellow liquids**
- **Toolboxes, coolers, and storage containers** - should never be opened or moved
- **Empty bottles with rubber hoses attached**
- **Stained red coffee filters, or filters with white powder residue**
- **Garbage bags with cat litter in them.** (Called death bags and can contain deadly gasses.)
- **Unused matches without striker plates**
- **Epsom salts or table salt boxes**
- **Pop or sports bottles with liquid still inside them** (May have a hose on them.)
- **Hot plates or camping stoves**

Other potentially hazardous waste to avoid picking up:

- **Diapers and sanitary napkins**
- **Chemical or pesticide containers**
- **Batteries** (car batteries or crushed batteries)
- **Lighter fluids or other combustibles**
- **Sharp objects like broken glass or nails**

Other signs of danger to watch for – dead grass areas, strange smells like rotten egg smell or cat urine smell, liquids that foam or have strange residue or sludge in them.



Normal trash/litter items you might find along the road or in a public area:

- **Old shoes or other clothing items**
- **Plastic drinking bottles**
- **Paper** (cups, newspaper, candy wrappers)
- **Metals** (cans, buckets, containers)
- **Plastic shopping bags**
- **Cardboard pop cartons**
- **Cleaning products** (etc. plastic spray bottle or plastic jugs)
- **Ribbons, string, twine or other kinds of rope**
- **Car parts** (mufflers, old tires, etc.)
- **Plastic** – (Baggies, straws, 6 pack rings, food containers)
- **Junk mail**
- **Cloth or rags**
- **Cigarettes**
- **Tobacco containers**
- **Balloons**
- **Plastic six pack holders**

Equipment you should always use when picking up along the roads:

- Rubber gloves and leather gloves
- Bright colored safety vests
- Cell phone to report dangerous items
- Boots or protective closed toe shoes
- Large heavy duty trash bags (bright colors are helpful)
- List of emergency contact numbers
- First aid kit
- Long pants and long-sleeved shirts
- Orange traffic signs (work crew ahead)
- Eye protection
- Hard Hats
- Insect repellent and/or sun screen
- Fresh water and break areas
- Adult supervision

Post a lookout crew to watch for hazards and unexpected traffic.

Avoid these hazards:

- Poisonous or thorny plants
- Stray or wild animals
- Construction areas or work zones
- Median strips or roundabout islands
- Heavy items

Don't wear headphones while working along the roads! These can keep you from hearing traffic noise, car horns, or shouting warnings of potential danger.