# BATH SALTS: New Substance Abuse Drugs

### What are "Bath Salts"?

"Bath Salts" are **new designer drugs**, which can be easily purchased over the internet and in convenience stores and smoke shops in many states. "Bath Salts" may contain a number of synthetic chemicals including Methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDVP), Mephedrone and Methylone. They have similar effects to Methamphetamine and Cocaine. The Drug Enforcement Administration has temporarily scheduled these chemicals as Schedule 1 substances, meaning they have a high potential for abuse. However, federal laws banning these drugs are pending legislative approval. \*\*\*Bath Salts are **ILLEGAL** in Vermont, Maine and New York\*\*\*

## What do they look like?



## **Common names for these drugs:**

Ivory Wave, Vanilla Sky, Pure Ivory, Whack, Bolivian Bath, Purple Wave...and many others

Forms Available: Capsules, Powder, Dry Leaves

How can people use this drug?  $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow$  Smoke, Inject, Snort, Oral

# Bath Salts: Cost &Comparison

Bath salts per gram: \$18.00 Marijuana: \$8.33 Ecstasy: \$140.00 Cocaine: \$166.90 Meth: \$365.79

# Why are they so popular?

- Easily available
- ➤ Cheap
- Legal in some countries
- Doesn't show up on drug
  - tests
- Causes euphoria, elevated mood, stimulation, etc.



### What are the health effects of "Bath Salts"?

- Violent behavior, homicidal & suicidal tendencies, extreme paranoia, hallucinations, delusions, increased heart rate, hyperthermia, kidney failure, heart attack, seizures, muscle damage, stroke, necrotizing fasciitis, death.
- These drugs make users unusually psychotic: people have committed horrible acts of violence against themselves and others, believing that monsters, demons and aliens are out to get them.

## Are Bath Salts addictive?

Yes, bath salts are highly addictive. Despite having a horrible "trip," users experience such strong cravings that they are unable to stop using the drug without undergoing treatment.

## What is a parent's role?



- Most important is to communicate with your child and educate them about the dangers of substance use.
- Educate your child about proper internet use.
- Set limits of internet use and availability. Use supervision if you are concerned.
- Always address misuse of the internet with your children with explanations and consequences.
- Take time to find out about your child's friends and places where he/she spends time.
- Monitor what your child buys on the internet. Bath salts are expensive.
- Monitor your child progress at school.
- If you're worried, discuss the issues your child with your primary care physician.

### **Resources:**

- Always remember your primary care physician
- Northern New England Poison Center Hotline: 1-800-222-1222



- Howard Center Crisis Phone Numbers for Children and Families: 802-488-7777 For Adults: 802-488-6400
- Champlain Valley Area of Narcotics Anonymous 24 Hour Helpline: (802) 862-4516
  For information email: publicinformation@cvana.org
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Burlington, VT) Hotline: (802) 860-8382
  For information visit: <u>http://burlingtonaa.org</u>