

Drug Update 2007

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Drugs In Video Games On The Internet

BEWARE! There is a new trend emerging in the virtual world. The second-most-populated virtual social world, *RedLightCenter.com*, on January 12, 2007, announced a new feature that allows members and guests to visit an Amsterdam-style smoking room to take a virtual hit of marijuana creating a simulated high. RedLightCenter is an online virtual world where users download a free software program that allows them to create their own identity.

Strawberry Meth

Flavored Meth is the newest metamorphosis of the dangerous street drug. It appears that the flavor and color were added to the meth during the cooking process, instead of afterward, which would mean the drug does not have any less potency than its common counterpart. "We are concerned that this new type of meth will be more attractive to a younger crowd and may surface in schools," said Sgt. Darrin Sloan, commander of the Carson City Sheriff's Department's Special Enforcement Team.

~Nevada Appeal News, January 29, 2007

WATCH OUT ...

Water bottles have begun to pose a problem in schools. Students have recently been caught with alcohol in their water bottles instead of water.

A Portage (WI) High School student was arrested after he was accused of bringing a water bottle full of gin to school on January 12, 2007. The 15-year-old's teacher notified the school resource officer following a tip.

In addition, two Burlington (IN) students were arrested November 6, 2006, on charges of underage drinking at Karcher Middle School. The girl admitted to putting whiskey into a water bottle and bringing it to school on two different occasions. She and the boy drank from it during the school day.

Sources : PRIDE Omaha, Inc., Winter 2007; Center For Science In The Public Interest, April 4, 2007; www.Spykeme.com; www.rei.com

Be ALERT for these developing trends:

- ◆ Available now on eBay for around \$45, flip flop sandals can be purchased that have a built-in flask in each heel. The sandals can hold three ounces in each container. They come with a little funnel to make filling the flask easy and a church key that is used to open the flask.
- ◆ Parents Beware! Three new smokeless-tobacco products: Taboka, Skoal Dry, and Camel Snus are hitting the market. These tobacco pouches are so small they are hard to see in the mouth, so kids can use them secretively. Again, emphasize to children and adults the major health problems that can be caused by any use of tobacco.
- ◆ A new trend finds that children are drinking hand sanitizers for their alcohol content. Hand sanitizers contain 62% alcohol, as compared to 35% in a bottle of rum.
- ◆ Alcohol energy drinks that contain alcohol, caffeine, and other stimulants are the newest entries into the world of alcoholic beverages. Mark Hall, in discussing Hansen's alcoholic energy drink states, "The effect is heightened awareness. You will get intoxicated at the same rate as with any other alcoholic beverage. The difference is that you will seem more alert and more awake."

Source: Alcohol, Energy Drinks, and Youth: A Dangerous Mix, p. 12
<http://www.marininstitute.org/alcopops/resources/EnergyDrinkReport.pdf>

"GREENADE" Marijuana Gumballs

Recently discovered in Maryland, the gumballs are a bright yellow color with a happy face on one side and a "bored hole filled with greenish-brown marijuana" on the other. The gumballs can be filled with as much as one gram of "high-grade marijuana."

The gumball is then wrapped with foil and labeled "Greenade" with an image of a marijuana leaf. On the label along with "100% Pure Marijuana Extract" are detailed instructions of how to use the marijuana gumball. "Take 30 minutes -1 hour before you would like to receive your high. Chew for as long as possible, then swallow."