

# Identifying Drug Houses

November 3, 2009

## What Causes a Drug House? Simple Economics

- Drugs are highly addictive and controlling. Individuals can not stop the habit, and feel they need the drugs to survive.
- Drug dealers know they have a product, that people ***will buy***. This item can be hard to come by, and dangerous in the event they get caught, thus it makes for a lucrative business.

## Drug Houses What do Drug Dealers look for?

- Isolation
  - Natural
  - Man-Made
  - Difficult to approach without being seen
- Quiet Community
  - Little community inter-action
  - Neighbors Keep to themselves
- Rental Property
  - Not looking for home ownership
  - Landlords that are not involved
- Neighborhoods with Customers
  - Want to have clients
  - Want clients to “fit in”

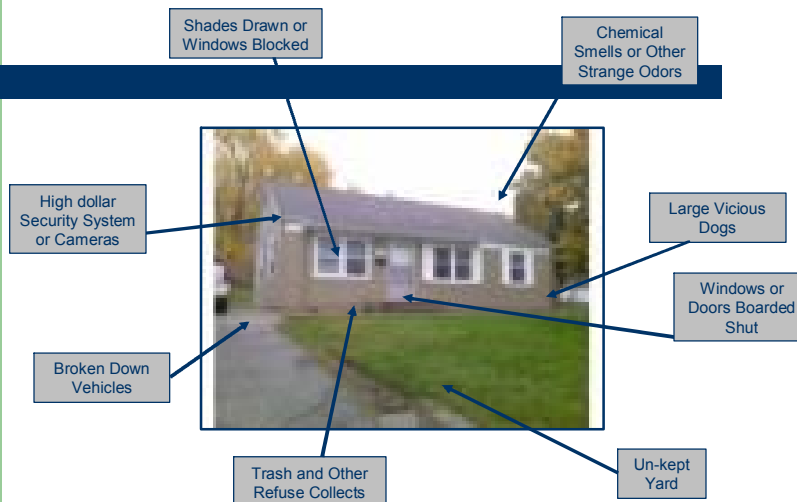
## Drug Houses What do Drug Dealers Hate?

- Nosey neighbors
- Strong neighborhood groups
  - Drug dealers by nature are very paranoid people
  - Several drugs, namely methamphetamines increase paranoid states dramatically
  - Drug dealers do not want the feeling that “someone is watching.”
- The Police

## Drug Houses Identifying a Drug House

- Excessive foot or car traffic
- Loitering
- Short visits by multiple individuals
- Resident will meet cars or people outside, conduct hand transaction, then everyone separates
- Individuals in neighborhood that do not belong, and exhibit “odd behavior.”
- Sudden increase of criminal activity in neighborhood

## Drug Houses Identifying a Drug House



## Drug Houses What to Do

- Disclaimer
  - It is imperative that we get reported to us what is going on in your neighborhood. You are our eyes and ears.
  - With that being said, we want you to be safe! Do not put yourself in harm's way. Your police department is prepared and trained to deal with these individuals.

## Drug Houses What to Do

- Talk to your neighbors, and keep your groups strong.
  - Often neighbors can correlate information and activities.
  - Neighbors can also pin-point activity from different times of the day.
- Report suspicious behavior
  - Call in suspicious cars and behavior, even if it is just a “BOLO” (911).
    - Current manpower does not always allow us time to sit on a house, but broadcast information can lead to an arrest.
    - Do not get discouraged if people get away.
  - Report disturbances, fights, and loud parties or gatherings (911).
  - Report open drug use, transactions (911).

## Drug Houses What to Do

- Keep track of what is going on in your neighborhood
  - [www.crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com)
  - Also via other Neighbors
- Keep track of activity at house (House-watch form)
  - Do this safely
  - Do not put yourself in harm's way
  - Return form to me, I will see to it that it goes to the proper investigative chain

## Drug Houses What to Do

- Keep track of long term activity, noting highs and lows. This information can be reported to our drug hotline, 325-NARC.
  - Our line is for call in tips, if you want a reply, leave your name and number. Most calls returned in 24 hours, or the first Tuesday after a weekend. Obviously do not call in suspicious activity to this number.
- For county residence, contact the Jackson County Drug Hotline at: 881-3662.
- Do not give up!
  - Sometimes it can take months, even years to remove a drug house from a neighborhood. We must send the message that this type of activity will not happen in our neighborhood!

## Drug Houses

Drug houses are a problem that can plague any community. It is important to make a stand against drug houses in our community. Even if you think that it is a small or low volume drug house, it is a problem that needs to be addressed. Drug houses bring drug users, gangs, and criminals into neighborhoods. In addition, these individuals are known for carrying weapons, additional dangerous drugs or other items that can put all of us in harms way.

When disturbances occur at drug houses, guns can come into play. When a gun is fired, the bullet does not discriminate. A bullet does not know the difference between a drug user and a citizen, an adult or a child. If you believe that if you leave a drug house alone, it will leave you alone, you are wrong. You put yourself at risk, your neighbors at risk, and any other innocent bystander in the area.

As a member of the blockwatch program, it is your duty to report drug houses, and to take a stand against these individuals. Lets take our streets back, one drug house at a time.