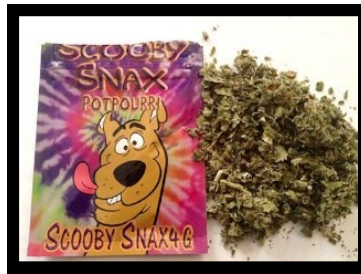




Synthetic Drugs Fact Sheet

Synthetic Cannabinoids

- Otherwise known as **Synthetic Marijuana, K2 or Spice**
- Advertised as “natural” and similar to marijuana these drugs are **man-made and manufactured for abuse**
- Side effects include increased anxiety, elevated blood pressure, seizures, suicidal/harmful thoughts/actions and **potentially death**



Synthetic Cathinones

- Otherwise known as **bath salts or jewelry cleaner**
- **Effects similar to amphetamines** like cocaine, LSD, and meth
- Side effects include increased blood pressure, extreme paranoia, hallucinations, violent behavior, and **potentially death**



National Facts

- ◆ National rise in calls to poison control from 2,600 in 2013 to **more than 4300** in the first 5 months of 2015
- ◆ **1 in 9** 12th graders report using synthetic drugs in the past year
- ◆ Use of synthetic drugs among high school seniors is **2nd only to Marijuana**
- ◆ In 2012 **51 new synthetic cannabinoids** were identified compared to two in 2009

Baltimore Facts

- ◆ Emergency physicians reporting a **marked increase** in the number of people coming to the ER after using synthetic drugs, especially youths
- ◆ Maryland Poison Control has received **155 calls related to synthetic marijuana** through July of 2015 compared to 90 calls in all of 2014
- ◆ Between 2013 and 2015 **eight deaths** have been linked to use of synthetic cannabinoids

Please sign our petition showing your support online: health.baltimorecity.gov/syntheticdrugban



Guide to Identifying Synthetic Drugs

Synthetic drugs appear in stores disguised as a variety of legal products. Knowing what to look for will help you identify these products.

What They Look Like



Bath Salts



Spice Gold



Spice Diamond



K2

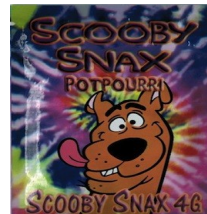
Other Names to Look For: Scooby Snacks, Genie, Yucatan Fire, Bliss, Black Mamba, Bombay Blue, Fake Weed, Zohai, Red Magic, Flakka, Cloud Nine, Ivory Wave, Blue Silk, Vanilla Sky, Energy 1, Plant Fertilizer, Plant Food, Insect Repellent



Bombay Blue



Genie



Scooby Snax



Yucatan Fire

Things to Look For

- Is the packaging consistent with the way the product is usually marketed? (e.g. Does this look like packaging for potpourri?)
- Is the product not something your store normally sells (e.g. Convenience store selling “bath salts”)
- Is the product much more expensive than similar products that are used to do the same thing?
- Are there warning labels you would not usually find on products in their original form? (e.g. ‘not for purchase by minors’ on incense or potpourri.)
- Are the contents different than what you would expect in the products usual form? (e.g. powder substance marketed as “glass cleaner”)

Sign our online petition: <http://health.baltimorecity.gov/syntheticdrugban>. Look for “Not A Drug Dealer” signs in your local stores to identify retailers committed to keeping drugs out of our communities. If you see synthetic drugs being sold in stores, please call 311 to report them.

