

COMMON SLANG

The names of inhalants vary by area. Some of the more common slang terms are listed below.

Although several words listed here may not be used in the Macungie area, it is still good to have more information than not have any at all.

Air blast	Moon gas
Ames	Oz
Pearls	Poor man's pot
Bolt Poppers	Boppers
Quicksilver	Bullet
Rush	Snappers
Highball	Thrust
Hippie crack	Huff
Huffing	<u>Laughing gas</u>
Whippets (whipping cream)	
Hiagra in a bottle	

The bold and underlined slang terms are commonly used in our area.

The LAW!

PA Crimes Code Section 7303 (a)

No person shall, for the purpose of causing a condition of intoxication, inebriation, excitement, stupefaction, or the dulling of his brain or nervous system, intentionally smell or inhale the fumes from any noxious substance or substance containing a solvent having the property of releasing toxic vapors or fumes.

BE VIGILANT WITH YOUR FAMILY

Slang is commonly used when people don't want to come right out and say what they intend to do.

Kids especially will develop their own words to deceive their parents. If your child was having a conversation with a friend and said, "I will meet you at the mall to shop for new shoes", you may not suspect foul play. If you heard "let's meet and pick up some snap" it should raise your suspicions.

Ask the child what it means. You may put them in a position where they will begin to make up things or excuses that just don't make sense.

If your child seems to request whipping cream more frequently it should raise your suspicions. If you find whipping cream cans that have product in them but no aerosol to dispense the cream it is a very good indication that the aerosol was "huffed" out.

When you suspect your children are being deceptive, they just may be hiding something.

Poison Control
1-800-222-1222

INHALANTS



Information compliments of

Macungie Police Department

21 Locust Street Macungie, Pennsylvania 18062

(610) 966-2222 Administration
(610) 965-4878 Fax

www.macungiepd.org

Effects Of Inhalants

Most of the common abused inhalants produce effects similar to anesthetics, which act to slow down the body's functions.

When inhaled, the chemicals cause intoxicating effects that can last a few minutes or several hours if inhalants are taken repeatedly.

Users may feel slightly stimulated with a few "huffs". With successive "huffs" or inhalations, they may feel less inhibited and less in control. If the user continues to "huff" the chemical they can lose consciousness.

Sniffing highly concentrated amounts of the chemicals in solvents or aerosol sprays can directly induce heart failure and death.

Inhalants are toxic and can lead to

- Hearing loss - (paint sprays, glues, cleaning fluids, correction fluids)
- Peripheral neuropathies or limb spasms - (glues, gasoline) and nitrous oxide (whipping cream, gas cylinders)
- Central nervous system or brain damage - (paint sprays, glues)
- Bone marrow damage - (gasoline)
- Blood oxygen depletion - methylene chloride (varnish removers, paint thinners)

Signs Of Abuse

Inhalants, like other drugs, have noticeable effects on those using them. Someone on inhalants may suffer from a number of different effects, including:

- Mood swings
- Extreme anger
- Agitation
- Irritability
- Exhaustion
- Loss of appetite
- Frequent vomiting
- Hallucinations and illusions
- Facial rashes and blisters
- Frequent nose running
- Frequent coughing
- Dilated pupils
- Extremely bad breath

Keep in mind some of these things are associated with other health problems, not necessarily inhalant use.

Easiest and most common things to look for;

Paint on fingers or face
Empty whipped cream cans

Getting HELP

If you think you or a friend may be addicted to inhalants, talk to your doctor, school counselor, or nurse. They can help you get the help you need.

Several kinds of treatment are available for drug addiction; the two main categories are behavioral and pharmacological (treating with medication).

Treatment for inhalant addiction is primarily behavioral. An expert in drug treatment teaches people how to function without drugs, handling cravings, avoiding situations that could lead to inhalant use, and preventing and handling relapses.

You can find Substance Abuse hotlines in the blue pages of a local phone book or call your local Government Agency for qualified professionals in your area.

Lehigh County Government
Center
(610) 782-3000