

Maine Methamphetamine Prevention Task Force

History: The Methamphetamine Prevention Task Force was established in 2005 when Maine passed legislation to prevent methamphetamine manufacturing in our state. The “Maine Meth Watch Program”, as it is named in statute, was created to “to educate retailers, retail employees and the public in order to help curtail suspicious sales and the theft of methamphetamine precursor drugs and to identify the location of illicit methamphetamine manufacturing.”^[1] Over the years the task force has created several tools and resources such as rack cards for home visitors and property owners; an educational toolkit; and a power point presentation used by those in the prevention field to educate their communities.

Representatives from the following groups have historically participated on the Task Force:

- Maine Drug Enforcement Agency
- New England High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
- New England Poison Control
- Office of Child and Family Services
- Maine Sheriff’s Association
- Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
 - Public Health Nursing
 - Tobacco and Substance Use Prevention and Control
 - Statewide Epidemiology Outcomes Workgroup
- Community-level prevention, treatment and recovery programs

Currently: Because the ME DEA is seeing an influx of cocaine and pre-manufactured crystal methamphetamine coming into our state, the Task Force is considering broadening its focus to include stimulants in general. This will also align with work at the local level that is addressing both opioid and stimulant use. Over the past year, the Task Force has begun updating educational resources to reflect current data and trends and has been working on recruiting additional task force members. The Maine CDC will also be launching a stimulant prevention mass media campaign this spring.

The Task Force currently meets bi-monthly, on the third Wednesday from 9:00-10:30 a.m. For more information, please contact Megan Scott, Prevention Specialist, Tobacco and Substance Use Prevention and Control Program, Maine CDC. (megan.scott@maine.gov)

1. <https://legislature.maine.gov/legis/statutes/22/title22sec2351.html>