

Public Health Response to Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratory Sites

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1402

Property Information
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Project Goal

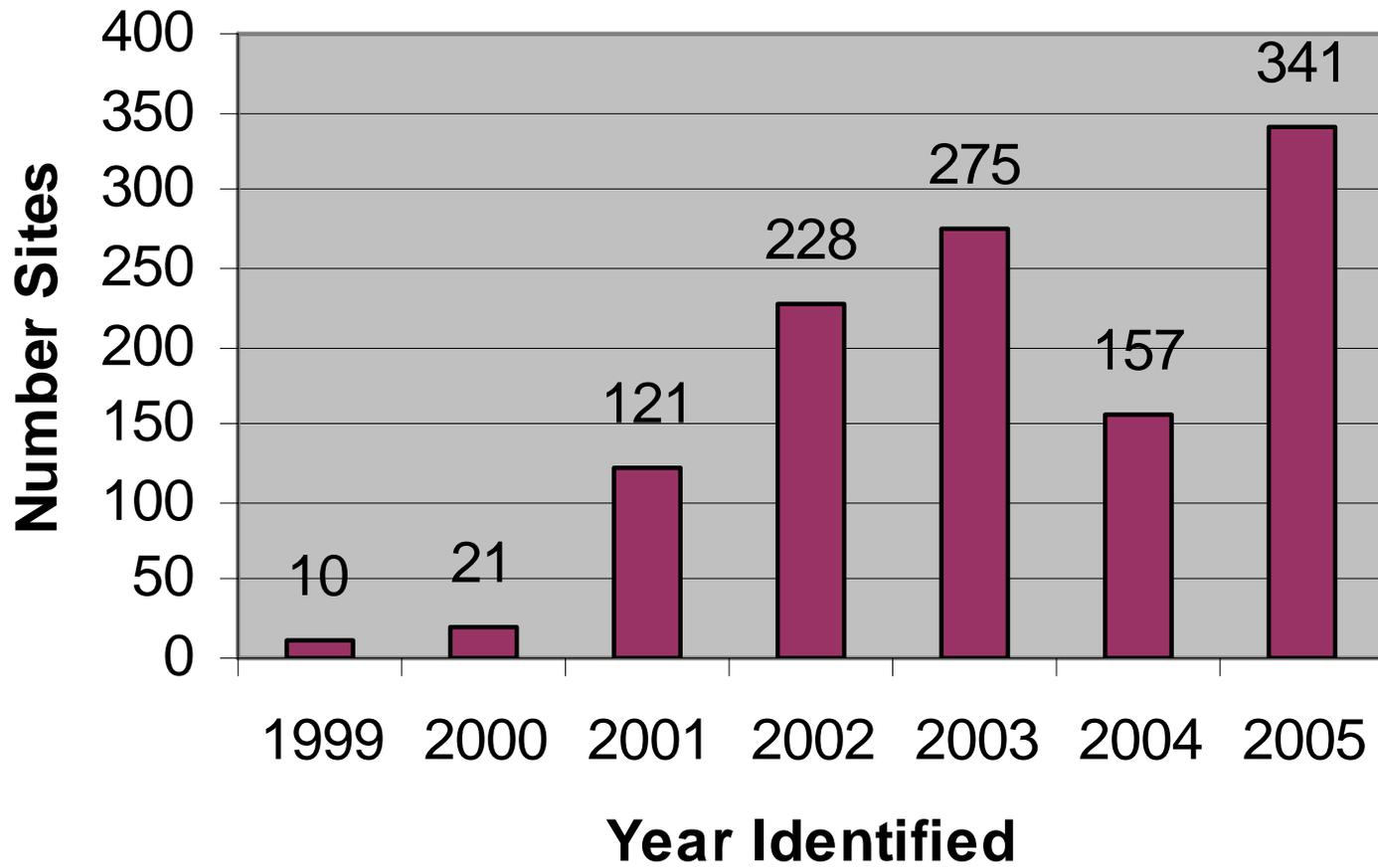
- *To reduce residential, chemical exposures to Michigan citizens. Specifically with regards to Clandestine Drug Laboratory (CDL's) chemicals but with applicability to other residential exposures.*
- *To create a cooperative, relationship between Public and Environmental Health Agencies, Housing Agencies, Law Enforcement, and Property Owners (in particular Landlords)*
 - *formal and informal*
 - *local and the State level*

Health Problem

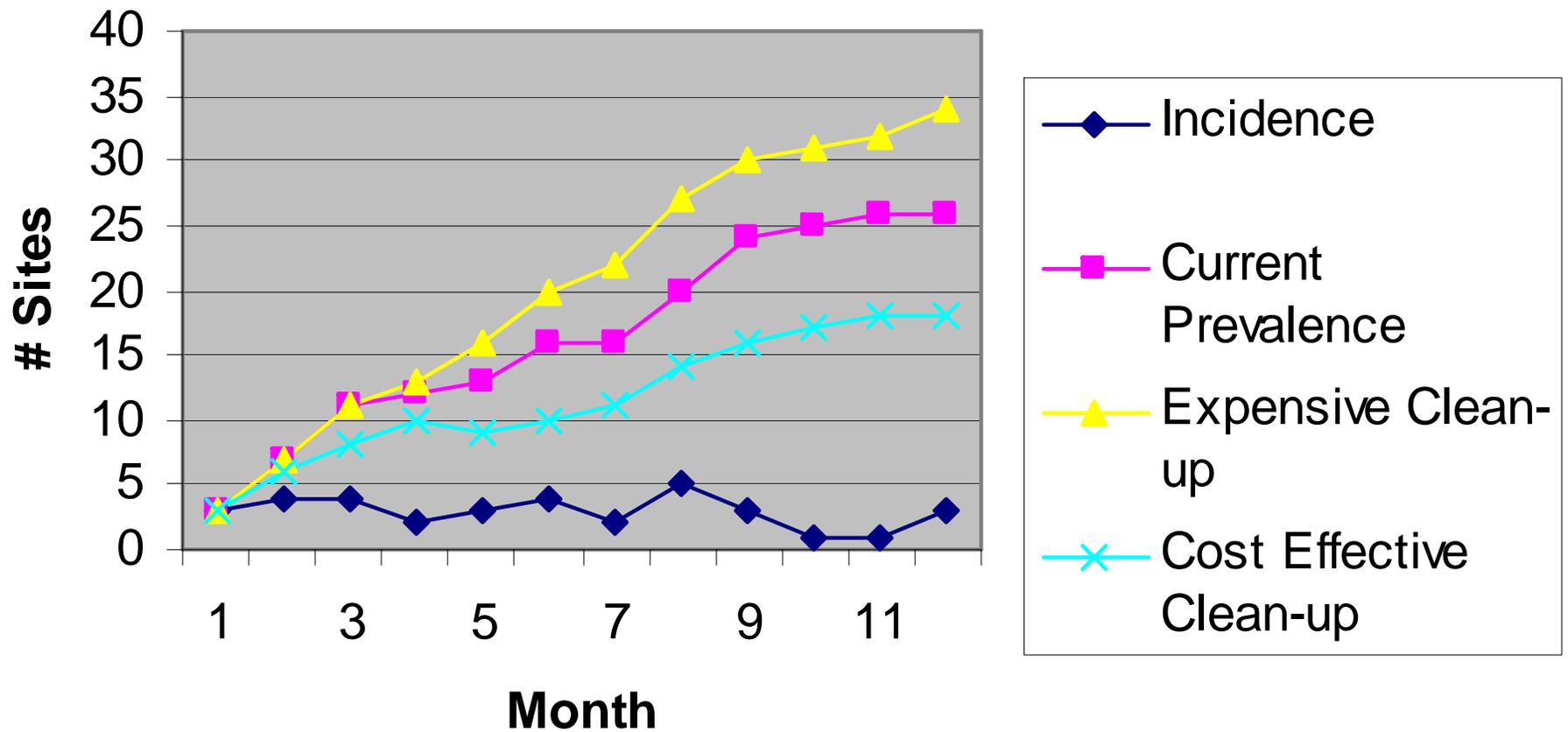
- *Potential exposure to precursor chemicals or methamphetamine.*
- *Potential social health impacts derived from abandoned residential sites if effective clean-up procedures are not cost effective.*

Number of CDL Sites in Michigan

data source <http://www.dea.gov/seizures/index.html>



Real and Projected CDL Site Incidence and Prevalence in 2 Michigan Counties



Current State

- Lack of good data on CDL chemical exposure (concentrations, routes, duration, susceptible population concerns).
- Lack of clear and easy regulatory status for residential sites.
 - Lack of residential exposures standards
 - Lack of environmental requirements for existing (not new-build) residential sites
 - Lack of experience (housing officials unfamiliar with chemical exposures, environmental officials unfamiliar with housing issues)
 - Lack of cooperative relationship between housing and environmental officials

Stakeholders

- Property owners; owner occupied, landlords
- Tenants, current and future
- Law enforcement
- Housing officials (code enforcement)
- Environmental regulatory officials
- Environmental consultants
- Neighborhood residents
- Child protective services
- Municipal authority

Stakeholders

- Note that the persons who created the problem (the drug producers) are often not property owners, and are often not interested in the ultimate disposition of the property.
- They are therefore are not actually stakeholders.
- This results in a regulatory obstacle similar to contamination sites whose Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) are defunct companies or deceased owners.

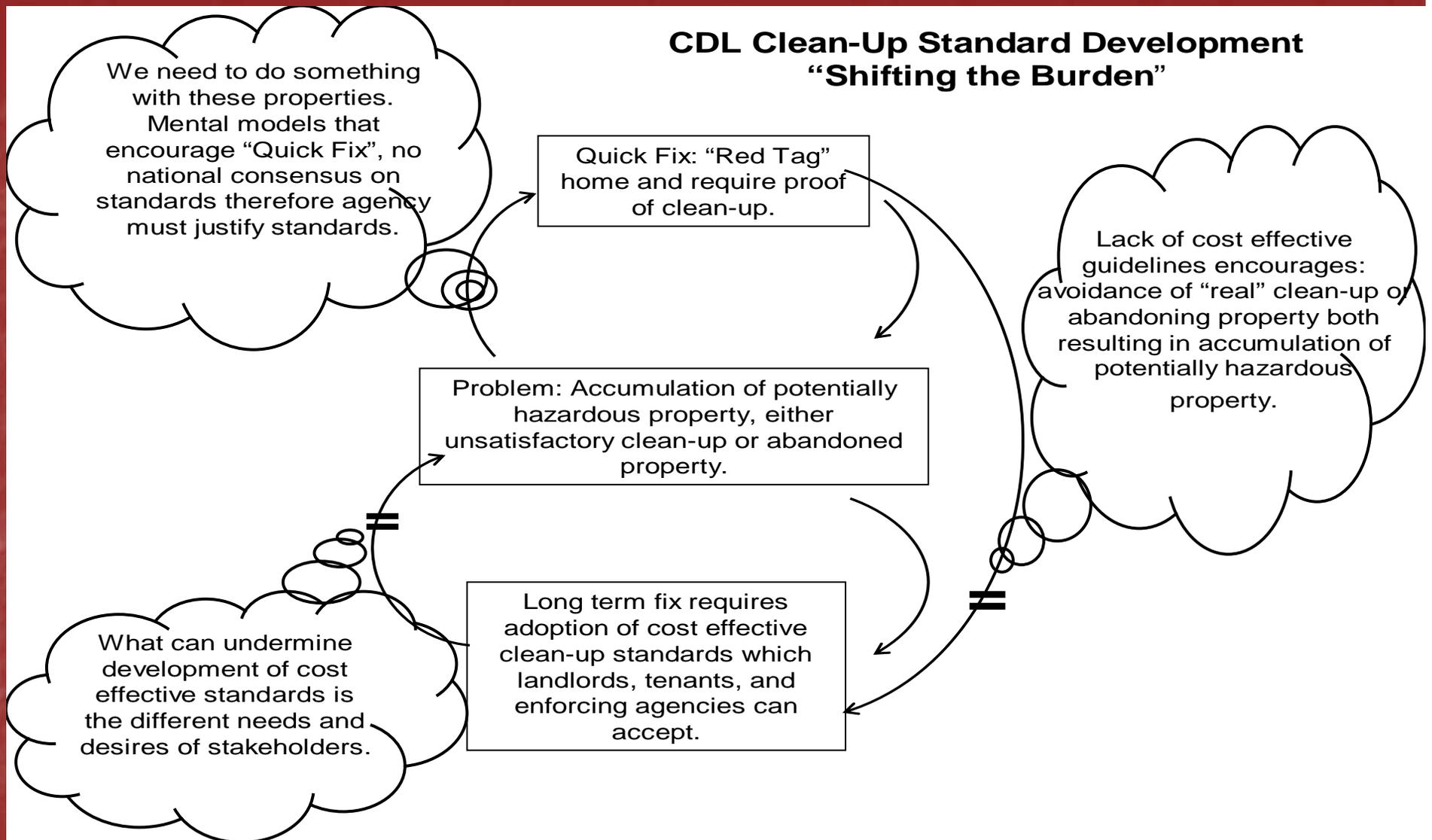
Mental Models Current Status

- Law enforcement is done with the site once all evidence is collected.
- Housing officials want the property returned to residential use but do not have the expertise in chemical exposure.
- Environmental officials do not normally regulate currently existing residential sites.

Mental Models Current Status

- Landlords want to return property to active income:
 - They generally want “safe” property
 - Can not spend more on clean-up than they can recoup from rent
- Environmental consultants want:
 - Reasonable return on services (incentive not to service low income properties)
 - Clear regulatory status with clearly defined objectives

CDL Clean-Up Standard Development "Shifting the Burden"



Determinant:

- ***Adoption of cost effective State of Michigan CDL Clean-up Guidelines***
- ***Presentation of Guidelines to both Michigan Association of Housing Officials (MAHO) and Michigan Landlord Association.***
- ***Provide analysis of site accumulation data (do clear standards decrease turn around time or prevalence rates).***

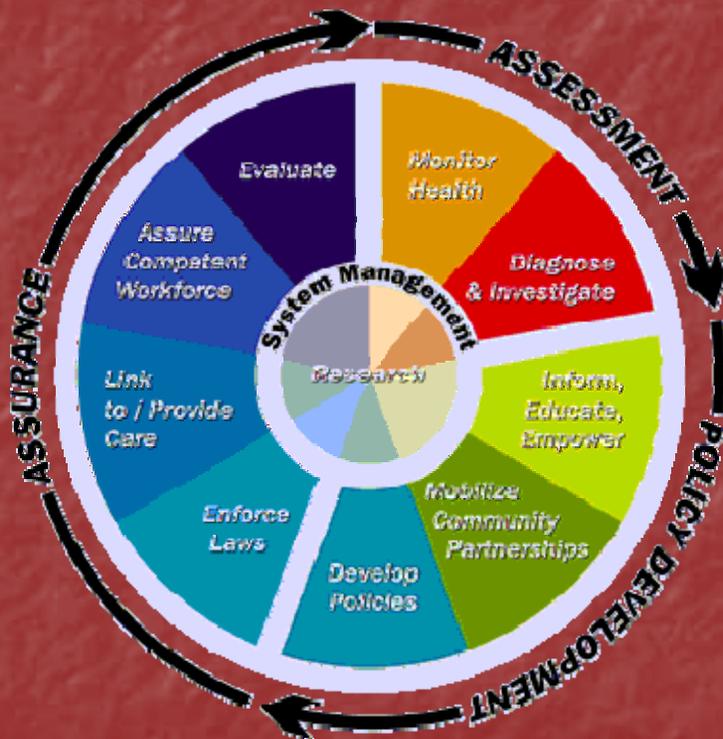
Accomplishments

- Adoption of State of Michigan Standards
- Creation of partnership between environmental health and housing officials in Ingham County
- Initial data for CDL incidence/prevalence prior to standard adoption

Yet to be Done

- Promotion of new standards to Housing Officials and Landlord Associations (summer 2007)
- Analysis of incidence/prevalence data after implementation of standards (winter 2008)

Project Support for 10 Essential Services



- Policy Development
 - Adopt cost effective clean-up standards
- Assurance
 - Grant CDL oversight to environmental agencies with appropriate stanadrads
- Assessment
 - Analyse data for effectiveness of adopted standrads

National Standards Supported*

- Goal I: Build Capacity
 - Identify appropriate activities and interventions for delivering environmental public health programs
- Goal II: Support Research
 - Use accumulating data to evaluate effectiveness of regulatory requirements
- Goal VI: Create Strategic Partnerships
 - Partnering between environmental health and housing agencies
- *<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/Docs/nationalstrategy2003.pdf>



CDL in Ingham County,
January 2007