

## Watauga's First Meth Lab of 2013

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On January 9, 2013, detectives from the Special Operations Division discovered four methamphetamine laboratories and an HCL gas generator, which is used in the final phase of meth production, while executing a search warrant on 132 Battle Cove Lane, which is located in Bradford Trailer Park in Boone. The labs were not associated with the residence of 132 Battle Cove Lane. Detectives had recently received information that individuals were manufacturing meth in the woods at the end of Battle Cove Lane. Four "shake and bake" labs were discovered in the woods, along with an HCL gas generator, and lithium batteries which the lithium strips had been removed.

"Because of the recent arrest of several high level methamphetamine traffickers in Watauga County, we expect to see a rise in meth labs. The shake and bake method is the most preferred by meth cooks because the meth can be manufactured within 30 minutes." Sheriff Len Hagaman

Detectives are still investigating the meth lab dump sites.