In order to get high, kids are eating the seeds of a common weed found in the Treasure Valley known as “Moon Flower.” The pretty flower grows in ditch/irrigation areas and often kills off other flowers and weeds. After the flower blooms and the petals fall off, there is a prickly pod left with hundreds of seeds in it. Kids eat the seeds and get delirium-like effects. Following the hallucinations are headaches, blurred vision, nausea, dizziness, fever, short term memory loss, violent behavior and liver damage.

Chilly Willy
This trend currently is most popular overseas, but can also be found in the U.S. Young drinkers have started snorting vodka. The result is that the alcohol goes directly to the brain rather than being filtered through the liver. Immediate effects such as passing out, brain damage and even fatality are possible. This trend is quickly being circulated through YouTube.com, Bussfeed, and other file-sharing sites. More information can be found at www.urbandictionary.com

ShotPaks
Some call it “party in a pouch” but critics say it’s more like an alcoholic candy bar. These small alcoholic beverages come in laminated-foil plastic pouches. At first glance, these ShotPaks resemble the popular children’s Capri-Sun juices. The pouches are 50 ML and 34 proof alcohol level.

Smoking Smarties?
Middle-school students have found a new way to enjoy Smarties—“smoking” them. The Wall Street Journal reported that students are crushing the sugary candy discs into a powder, opening one end of the cellophane wrapper, pouring the powder into their mouths, then blowing the dust out of their mouths and noses. When the dust comes out of their mouths, it appears like smoke.

Parents are concerned that such mock smoking habits will lead kids to smoking cigarettes or marijuana. Though doctors say inhaling the Smarties powder is not life-threatening because the dust will dissolve, they say it still irritates throats and noses and is not a great idea. (www.jointogether.org)

JOOSE
A new version of alcoholic energy drinks has been created and is heavily marketed to young people. JOOSE energy drinks contain 9.0-9.9% alcohol and are usually 23.5 oz. They come in orange, red, purple or blue cans with names such as Dragon JOOSE or Tropical Punch. Beware of the growing popularity of JOOSE among youth, especially high school age.

Cheese—A mixture of black tar heroin and Tylenol PM tablets that are crushed up. The “cheese,” which costs only a dollar or two, is snorted. The effects can be disorientation, lethargy, and death.

Camel Snus—A form of smokeless tobacco which is being marketed as a good alternative to “being forced outside for a smoke”. The cute tin boxes with names like “frost” and “spice” seem harmless but have been outlawed in the European Union Nation since 2004. More info: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/27888789/

Camel Sticks and Strips—Another first for smokeless tobacco: dissolvable tobacco strips. Similar to recently popular dissolvable breath-strips, consumers simply pop the small stick or tongue strip in their mouths and let it dissolve. Extremely addictive and dangerous, they are also potentially easy for kids to use in secret because there is no smoking or spitting involved. (http://tobaccoproducts.org)

Hookah—A way to smoke tobacco from a water pipe. This new trend is popular among the 18 years and older youth who gather at hookah bars. The tobacco is very addictive, and sharing mouthpieces adds the risk of getting colds, viruses such as herpes, oral bacterial infections, and tuberculosis. The pipe or the flavored tobacco itself is also referred to as “shisha.”
Energy Drinks & Alcohol

Energy drinks are beverages like Red Bull, Rockstar, Monster, Full Throttle, Amp, and NOS. Most are carbonated and contain large amounts of caffeine and sugar with additional ingredients such as B vitamins, amino acids, and herbal stimulants such as guarana and ginseng.

Energy drinks are often used as mixers with alcohol. This combination carries a number of dangers:

- Since energy drinks are stimulants and alcohol is a depressant, the combination of effects can be dangerous. The stimulant effects can mask how intoxicated you are and prevent you from realizing how much alcohol you have consumed. Fatigue is one of the ways the body normally tells someone that they have had enough to drink.
- The stimulant effect can give the person the impression they are not impaired. No matter how alert you feel, your blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is the same as it would be without the energy drink. Once the stimulant effect wears off, the depressant effects of the alcohol will remain and could cause vomiting in your sleep or respiratory depression.
- Both energy drinks and alcohol are very dehydrating (the caffeine in energy drinks is a diuretic). Dehydration can hinder your body’s ability to metabolize alcohol and will increase toxicity and therefore the hangover experienced the next day.

Ecstasy...It's Back!

MDMA (3, 4 methylenedioxy-N-methylamphetamine), or ecstasy, is a synthetic drug with both stimulant and hallucinogenic qualities. The drug, once popular within the rave culture and in dance clubs, had been on the decline, but recent studies show that as of 2006 use of this drug is on the rise. Because of MDMA’s popularity, not only is the production increasing around the world, but tablets and capsules are being sold as “Ecstasy” are often not pure MDMA. The growing number of pills and capsules being marketed as MDMA but containing drugs like methamphetamine, PCP, amphetamine, ketamine, and PMA—with or without MDMA—has increased the dangers associated with MDMA use.

Source: http://www.streetdrugs.org/mdma.htm

Purple Drank??

- Purple Drank is an illegal recreational drink whose main ingredients originally consisted of prescription strength cough syrup and either a carbonated soft drink (generally Sprite) or fruit juice. The purple-ish hue of Purple Drank comes from the dyes in the cough syrup. Recently, the term has expanded to cover mixtures including over-the-counter cough syrup and vodka in place of prescription cough syrup. Other terms for Purple Drank include Barre, Oil, Purple Tonic, Lean (or Southern Lean), Drank, and Syrup (which is sometimes slangly pronounced as Sizzurp.) www.urbandictionary.com
- The active ingredient of Purple Drank is codeine, an opiate medication contained in prescription strength cough syrups due to its antitussive properties. Some prescription cough syrups also contain antihistamine medications, such as promethazine, which have a mild sedative effect. When taken in large quantities, both medications can lead to sedation and altered levels of consciousness.
- The cough-suppressing ingredient found in over-the-counter (OTC) cough syrup is dextromethorphan (DXM). It is also found in more than 125 OTC products and comes in various forms, most commonly in cough suppressants in caplet or liquid form. Depending on the dose, DXM's effects vary. Misuse of the drug creates both depressant and mild hallucinogenic effects. Users report a set of distinct dose-dependent "plateaus" ranging from a mild stimulant effect with distorted visual perceptions at low doses to a sense of complete dissociation from one's body at higher doses. If a child consumes large doses of a product containing dextromethorphan, it may cause a number of adverse effects, including impaired judgment and mental performance, loss of coordination, dizziness, nausea, hot flashes, dissociation, and hallucinations.

You're wearing what??

- Available now on eBay for approximately $45, flip flop sandals can be purchased that have a built-in flask in each heel to hold alcohol. The sandals can hold three ounces in each container. They come with a little funnel to make filling the flask easy and a church key that is used to open the flask.
- A new company, Seedless Clothing, is marketing clothing and stickers with pro-marijuana messages. Using bright colors, catchy designs, and such wordplay as “ONLY USERS LOSE DRUGS” and “LONG LIVE THE GREEN,” Seedless appeals to young marijuana users. Products are available online or at their San Diego outlet store.

Khat

Khat (pronounced “cot”) is a 2 – 12 foot flowering evergreen shrub native to East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. Most users chew the leaves, though they sometimes smoke khat or brew it in tea. When chewed in moderation khat alleviates fatigue and reduces appetite. However, common side effects include tachycardia, hypertension, insomnia, and gastric disorders. Chronic use can result in physical exhaustion, anorexia, violence, suicidal depression. Khat can also induce manic behavior, hyperactivity and hallucinations.

Source: http://www.streetdrugs.org/khat.htm

More info at: http://www.marininstitute.org/

Source: Brown University;