

MONTEREY COUNTY

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE



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To: Interested Industrial Hemp Cultivators

Fr: Joann Iwamoto *Joann Iwamoto*

Cc: Nicholas E. Chiulos, Assistant CAO
Jeannine Pacioni, District Attorney
Sheriff Steve Bernal
Carl Holm, Resource Management Agency Director
Henry Gonzales, Agricultural Commissioner
John Ramirez, Health Department, Environmental Health Bureau Chief
Kelly Donlon, Office of the County Counsel

Thank you for your interest in the cultivation of industrial hemp in Monterey County. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide Monterey County's guidelines on where and how industrial hemp can be cultivated or manufactured. Industrial hemp production is considered a use of similar character, density and intensity to commercial cannabis cultivation and manufacturing. As such, industrial hemp production must adhere to all permitting and operating requirements.

State Registration of Industrial Hemp Cultivators

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is expected to finalize regulations for the registration of industrial hemp growers in April or May 2019. Regulations for inspections, sampling, and crop destruction are still under development and will follow later. Once CDFA makes registration materials available, growers will be able to register with the Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner.

Industrial Hemp Cultivation

To grow industrial hemp in Monterey County, the cultivator must:

- Meet the definition of an "Established Agricultural Research Institution" pursuant to California Food and Agricultural Code section 81000(c.)
- Provide the following information to the Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner:

- GPS coordinates, in decimal degrees up to six decimals, of all sites used for cultivating industrial hemp.
- The name of the institution that is cultivating, including the name and contact information for the primary point of contact.
- The names of all individuals involved with cultivation as members of, or on behalf of the institution, and the nature of their relationship.
- Obtain the appropriate land use entitlement and all other applicable permits from the Monterey County Resource Management Agency (RMA).
 - An Administrative Permit is required in the inland zone, and a Coastal Development Permit is required in the coastal zone.
 - Industrial hemp cultivation must be in a zoning district where the commercial cultivation of cannabis is allowed under the Monterey County Code.
 - Industrial hemp cultivation must occur inside a greenhouse or industrial building that was legally established as of January 1, 2016.
 - If you have an active cannabis land use permit application, request to the RMA to include industrial hemp cultivation and/or manufacturing in their permit "Summary Description."
 - Please contact the Monterey County RMA at 831-755-5025 for permit information.
- Post all appropriate signage identifying industrial hemp cultivation at the site.

Industrial Hemp Manufacturing (Volatile or Non-Volatile)

The manufacturer must meet all the following requirements:

- Obtain the appropriate land use entitlement and all other applicable permits from the Monterey County Resource Management Agency.
 - An Administrative Permit is required in the inland zone, and a Coastal Development Permit is required in the coastal zone.
 - Manufacturing must be in a zoning district where manufacturing of commercial cannabis is allowed under the Monterey County Code.
- Pursuant to Chapter 10.04 of the Monterey County Code, obtain all applicable Health Permits from the Monterey County Environmental Health Bureau (EHB).
 - If volatile extraction is used, obtain permits for hazardous materials and hazardous waste from the EHB.
 - Please contact the Environmental Health Cannabis Management Services at 831-796-1274 for permit information.
- If volatile extraction is used, obtain all necessary permits/review from the Monterey Bay Area Resources District, and the local fire district.

Also please note, the [California Department of Public Health](#) and the U.S. FDA inform that the use of hemp-derived CBD as a food additive or dietary supplement has not been approved and is not allowed.