

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE FOR GROWERS AND PROCESSORS OF MARIJUANA

GUIDANCE

In order to protect Michigan's environment, marijuana growing and processing operations may be subject to Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) regulations. The following is a summary of environmental regulations that apply to cannabis cultivation and processing. It is the responsibility of the licensee to comply with all regulations applicable to a grower's/processor's operations.

AIR

- **Permit to Install (PTI)** – Every stationary source of an air pollutant is required to obtain an approved PTI *before* installing equipment. Some exemptions may apply. Go to Michigan.gov/Air then choose “Permits.”
- **Renewable Operating Permit (ROP)** – A ROP is required if your activity or process has the potential to emit at or above the major source threshold for any air pollutant. Visit Michigan.gov/Air (Permits) for more information.

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

Permits, Licenses, Authorizations, Registrations, and Handling Procedures: Depending on the character and volume of waste generated, you may require a permit, license, or registration, and be subject to strict handling procedures for the following types of waste from your operations.

- **Solid Waste** - Marijuana (cannabis) waste that is not a hazardous waste and does not release liquids can be incinerated at an approved facility, sent to a licensed municipal solid waste landfill after [insert LARA requirements], or composted at an approved site. A list of registered compost sites can be found at Michigan.gov/EGLECompost.
- **Hazardous Wastes** – Items like grow bulbs, batteries, cleaning or extraction chemicals, plant debris contaminated with certain extraction chemicals (for example butane, alcohol, etc.), and pesticides are typically subject to strict management requirements under the hazardous waste regulations. For more information, please go to Michigan.gov/EGLEWaste, choose “Hazardous Waste,” then “Hazardous Waste and Liquid Industrial By-Products.”
- **Liquid Industrial By-Products** – Michigan regulates non-hazardous liquid waste, separately from solid waste and hazardous waste. To learn more about those regulations, visit Michigan.gov/EGLEWaste, choose “Hazardous Waste,” then “Hazardous Waste and Liquid Industrial By-Products.”

- **Hazardous Waste and Liquid industrial By-products Transport** – The off-site shipment of hazardous waste and liquid industrial by-product requires a registered and permitted transporter. To find an authorized transporter, go to [Michigan.gov/EGLEWaste](https://www.michigan.gov/EGLEWaste), then choose “Transporters.”

WATER

Depending on where you are constructing your facility and what your water body impact or water use may be, there are water regulations and permits required for marijuana growing and processing operations, including:

- Water Withdrawal Permit – [Michigan.gov/WaterUse](https://www.michigan.gov/WaterUse)
 - Groundwater or Surface Water Withdrawals
 - Large Quantity Water Withdrawals
- Soil Erosion and Sediment Control / Stormwater Construction Permit – [Michigan.gov/SoilErosion](https://www.michigan.gov/SoilErosion)
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, for Wastewater Discharges [Michigan.gov/egleNPDES](https://www.michigan.gov/egleNPDES)
- Groundwater Permit, for Wastewater Discharges – [Michigan.gov/GroundwaterDischarge](https://www.michigan.gov/GroundwaterDischarge)
- Floodplain Permit – [Michigan.gov/FloodplainManagement](https://www.michigan.gov/FloodplainManagement)
- Wetlands Protection Permit – [Michigan.gov/Wetlands](https://www.michigan.gov/Wetlands)
- Inland Lakes and Streams Protection Permit – [Michigan.gov/egleInlandLakes](https://www.michigan.gov/egleInlandLakes)
- Great Lakes Shorelands Permit – [Michigan.gov/Shorelands](https://www.michigan.gov/Shorelands)
- EGLE/USACE Joint Permit Application [Michigan.gov/JointPermit](https://www.michigan.gov/JointPermit)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For assistance with understanding the environmental regulations and how to achieve and maintain compliance, refer to [Michigan.gov/EGLECannabis](https://www.michigan.gov/EGLECannabis) and the [Michigan Guide to Environmental Regulations](#).

This publication is intended for guidance only and may be impacted by changes in legislation, rules, policies, and procedures adopted after the date of publication. Although this publication makes every effort to teach users how to meet applicable compliance obligations, use of this publication does not constitute the rendering of legal advice.

EGLE does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, disability, political beliefs, height, weight, genetic information, or sexual orientation in the administration of any of its programs or activities, and prohibits intimidation and retaliation, as required by applicable laws and regulations.

To request this material in an alternative format, contact EGLE-Accessibility@Michigan.gov or 800-662-9278.