



# BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CANNABIS FACILITIES

## **CHEMICAL STORAGE, HANDLING AND DISPOSAL**

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- All chemicals must be stored in a manner, method, and location that ensure that there is no threat of discharge to the community sewer, which includes providing adequate secondary containment:
  - Seal all floor drains in chemical storage areas to prevent contaminated wastewater from discharging to the community sewer. Make sure to check with your landlord and local fire and building departments prior to sealing the drain.
  - If floor drains cannot be sealed, all chemicals must be stored in secondary containment.
- Ensure that employees do not pour toxic, corrosive, or flammable chemicals down sinks, toilets, or floor drains. Signage provided by EBMUD must be posted to remind employees not to dispose these substances to the community sewer. For example:
  - Solvents used in cannabinoid extraction like hexane are highly flammable and present a hazard when disposed to the community sewer.
  - Always ensure safe disposal of fertilizers, insecticides, plant growth regulators, and other chemicals. Do not dispose of these materials to the community sewer.
- Hire a certified waste hauler to properly dispose of spent wastes.
- Ensure all chemicals are properly labeled and immediately replace any damaged or otherwise illegible labels.
- Have a written spill procedure posted in areas where spills may occur. Train your employees on how to respond to a spill.
- Employ closed loop cannabinoid extraction systems as required by the Department of Public Health, Manufactured Cannabis Safety regulations. Closed-loop extraction systems keep chemicals from being discharged into the community sewer.

## **FERTILIZERS**

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- Evaluate irrigation water, soils, growth media, and plant tissue to optimize plant growth and avoid over-fertilization.
- Fertilizers must be applied at rates no greater than listed on the product label.

## **PESTICIDES AND PEST MANAGEMENT**

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- Before using any pesticide, always read and follow the pesticide label. The label is the law.
- Indoor cultivation operations must comply with the pesticide manufacture's re-entry interval time periods when applying pesticides.
- Implement an integrated pest management program which includes monitoring for pests, and developing treatment protocols utilizing the least toxic strategies.

## **PESTICIDES AND PEST MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)**

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- Refer to the California Department of Pesticide Regulation when considering pesticides for your cannabis cultivation operations - <http://cdpr.ca.gov/docs/cannabis/index.htm>.
- Prior to use of any pesticide, obtain operator identification number from the County Agricultural Commissioner - <https://www.acgov.org/cda/awm/agprograms/pesticide.htm> and consider consulting with a certified Pest Control Advisor (PCA) when planning a pest management plan for your cultivation operations - <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/currlic.htm>.
- If someone from your staff is a certified PCA and will be administering pesticides, ensure that staff periodically calibrate pesticide application equipment to ensure equipment is working as designed.

## **FATS, OILS AND GREASE (FOG)**

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- Order a free FOG scraper for removing and properly disposing of FOG from cookware before washing.
- A FOG removal device (grease trap/grease interceptor) must be installed and maintained to prevent fats from clogging the community sewer or causing sewage to back-up.
- Establish and maintain contract with a licensed FOG waste hauler to routinely clean and maintain grease removal devices.

## **WATER SUPPLY AND WATER EFFICIENCY**

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- Water system must be equipped with backflow prevention devices and shutoff valves to prevent cross-contamination of the drinking water supply. Visit <https://www.ebmud.com/water/about-your-water/water-quality/backflow-prevention>.
- If the irrigation is not on a separate irrigation meter, consider installing a sub-meter to better understand the irrigation use and quickly detect costly leaks. If interested, EBMUD Water Conservation has a rebate for sub-meters. Please contact the Water Conservation Department for more information at [waterconservation@ebmud.com](mailto:waterconservation@ebmud.com).
- Sign-up for EBMUD's free online customer portal to access detailed information about your historical and current water use. Visit <https://www.ebmud.com/water/conservation-and-rebates/my-water-report-program>.
- Irrigating by hose has a potential to be wasteful. Frequent staff education on best practices and the establishment of standard operating procedures is recommended.
- Implement water recycling and reuse practices where feasible to irrigate crops efficiently.