

Waste Disposal

Alabama

Proper disposal of cannabis waste is imperative to **prevent diversion, keep an accurate inventory, and ensure cannabis is safe and secure** at all times.

Licensees are required to track and report the destruction of all cannabis waste. Be sure to weigh and count all cannabis waste items and adjust inventory levels as needed to reflect the change. **Always make a note in Metrc** for each inventory adjustment.

Licensees must have a Cannabis/Medical Cannabis Waste and Disposal Plan, which must be maintained at all times and reviewed at least annually. The plan must ensure that at a minimum, no parts of the disposed or waste cannabis or medical cannabis is usable or recognizable. A tried-and-true means of rendering cannabis waste unusable and unrecognizable includes grinding and mixing it with another material. Suitable materials for mixing cannabis waste for disposal include **food waste, coffee grounds, mulch, sawdust, growing media, or other non-chemical substances**.

Cannabis waste in any form must be secured at all times to prevent diversion. If your business uses exterior receptacles, such as dumpsters, they must be locked, secured, and only accessible to the authorized employees of your business.

Licensees, to the greatest extent feasible, should **recycle** any material classified as recyclable. Licensees are also required to safely and compliantly dispose of **liquid and chemical waste**, which might require transport to a hazardous waste facility.

Licensees are required to submit an Environmental Impact Plan within their license application. This document outlines the anticipated impact of proposed operations, plans, if any, to build a relationship to foster cooperation and compliance with all applicable agencies providing environmental oversight, and any steps the business has taken or will take to reduce its carbon footprint and/or to maintain a positive environmental profile in each respective community where the business will be operating within the next (3) years. **Proper waste disposal is a cornerstone of reducing environmental impact in local communities.**

538-X-8-.05 Applications And Licensing Procedures As To Dispensaries Generally.

(3) Procedure for Filing Application - Exhibits to Dispensary's Application. Exhibits to the Dispensary Applicant's application information shall include all those as provided in subparagraphs 3.m.(1) through 3.m.(16) of Rule 538-X-3-.05 of Chapter 3 of these Rules, unless specifically provided otherwise as follows:

(g) Dispensary applicants must provide an Environmental Impact Statement outlining the anticipated impact of each of the dispensary's proposed operations, per facility, on the local environment; the applicant's efforts or plans, if any, to build a relationship to foster cooperation and compliance with federal, state and local agencies providing environmental oversight; and any steps the applicant has taken or will take to reduce or eliminate its carbon footprint and/or to achieve and maintain a positive environmental profile in each community where the applicant intends to locate and operate a facility within the next three years.

538-X-4-.07 Duty To Meet And Maintain Standards, Policies, Procedures and Operations Per Application.

A licensee has an ongoing duty to meet and maintain the standards, policies, procedures, and operations as it affirmed to the Commission at the time of licensing, as such standards, policies, procedures, and operations may have been amended by the licensee from time to time in accordance with Rules 538-X-4-.08 and 538-X-4-.19. Specifically, at the time of the licensee's precommencement inspection and at each inspection thereafter, a licensee must meet and/or maintain the following, in the manner previously provided at the time of licensing, as updated (i.e., current to within 30 days, unless otherwise required):

(12) The following documents, labeled, and in the following order:

(o) The licensee's verified Standard Operating Plan and Procedures. The licensees must demonstrate and maintain standard operating procedures regarding the following subjects in such a way that they can be readily accessed from the physical site of operations upon the request of inspectors, the Commission, or Commission staff, including, at a minimum, the following:

10. A Cannabis/Medical Cannabis Waste and Disposal Plan. Licensees must maintain at all times and review at least annually, a plan for tracking and proper disposal of waste cannabis or medical cannabis, including all parts thereof, as applicable. Such plan must, at a minimum, leave no part of the disposed or waste cannabis or medical cannabis either usable or recognizable as such.