

Marijuana Waste Regulations by State

This list compiles information from state legislature web sites. At the time of completion, the below information was found to be the most current according the individual regulating bodies.

State	Waste Regulations	State Document Reference
Alabama	TBD	CLICK HERE
Alaska	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
Arizona	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
Arkansas	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
California	Render unrecognizable or approved Cannabis haulers	CLICK HERE
Colorado	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE
Connecticut	Render unrecognizable in the presence of an authorized representative	CLICK HERE
Delaware	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
District of Columbia	Render unusable and unrecognizable	
Florida	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
Georgia	Not Available	
Hawaii	Rendered Unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
Idaho	Not Available	
Illinois	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE
Indiana	Not Available	
Iowa	Not Available	
Kansas	Not Available	
Kentucky	Not Available	
Louisiana	Not Available	
Maine	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE
Maryland	TBD	
Massachusetts	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE
Michigan	Render unrecognizable (Shred) and mix with compostable materials	CLICK HERE
Minnesota	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE
Mississippi	Not Available	
Missouri	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
Montana	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE
Nebraska	Not Available	
Nevada	Grind and incorporate with other ground materials	CLICK HERE
New Hampshire	TBD	
New Jersey	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE
New Mexico	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
New York	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE
North Carolina	TBD	
North Dakota	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE
Ohio	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE

Oklahoma	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
Oregon	Render unrecognizable or approved Cannabis haulers	CLICK HERE
Pennsylvania	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
Rhode Island	Render unrecognizable and mix 50/50	CLICK HERE
South Carolina	Not Available	
South Dakota	Not Available	
Tennessee	Not Available	
Texas	Not Available	
Utah	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
Vermont	TBD	
Virginia	TBD	
Washington	Render unusable and unrecognizable	CLICK HERE
West Virginia	TBD	
Wisconsin	Not Available	
Wyoming	Not Available	

Alabama

<http://agi.alabama.gov/docs/default-source/Executive/medicalcannabisact/medical-cannabis-act-2021-450.pdf>

(4) Demonstrate the ability to destroy unused or 10 waste cannabis in accordance with rules adopted by the 11 Department of Agriculture and Industries

Alaska

<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/Portals/9/pub/MCB/StatutesAndRegulations/3%20AAC%20306%203.17.21.pdf>

3 AAC 306.730. Waste disposal

(d) Marijuana plant waste must be made unusable by grinding the marijuana plant waste and mixing it with at least an equal amount of other compostable or non-compostable materials. A marijuana establishment may use another method to make marijuana waste unusable if the board approves the method in advance. Material that may be mixed with the marijuana waste includes:

- (1) compostable materials including food waste, yard waste, vegetable based grease or oils, or other wastes approved by the board when the mixed material can be used as compost feedstock or in another organic waste method such as an anaerobic digester with approval of any applicable local government entity; or
- (2) non-compostable materials including paper waste, cardboard waste, plastic

Arizona

<https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/licensing/medical-marijuana/testing-advisory-council/mm-testing-advisory-council-report.pdf>

Medical Marijuana Testing Advisory Council - Findings & Recommendations - December 2019 16 7.0 Disposal

Council members discussed current methods of disposal within laboratories and considered information from other states on disposal requirements.

The final recommendations of the Council related to disposal are that laboratories must maintain policies and procedures to render waste unusable and unrecognizable.

Arkansas

<http://170.94.37.152/REGS/006.02.17-001F-17241.pdf>

SECTION 18. DISPOSAL OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA

RR 18.1. Disposal of Marijuana by Cultivation Facilities and Dispensaries. All medical marijuana waste shall be disposed of in accordance with this rule.

f. Medical marijuana shall be rendered unusable by grinding and incorporating the cannabis plant waste with other ground materials so the resulting mixture is at least 50% non-cannabis waste by volume.

California

<https://cannabis.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/13/2019/01/Order-of-Adoption-Clean-Version-of-Text.pdf>

§ 5054. Destruction of Cannabis Goods Prior to Disposal.

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(d) To be rendered as cannabis waste for proper disposal, including disposal as defined under Public Resources Code section 40192, cannabis goods shall first be destroyed on the licensed premises. This includes, at a minimum, removing or separating the cannabis goods from any packaging or container and rendering it unrecognizable and unusable. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require vape cartridges to be emptied of cannabis oil prior to disposal, provided that the vape cartridge itself is unusable at the time of disposal.

Colorado

https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/HM_HW_Compliance-Bulletin-Marijuana-Marijuana-Related-Waste-Disposal.pdf

A marijuana establishment shall dispose of marijuana and marijuana-infused product waste in a secure waste receptacle in possession and control of the marijuana establishment. The plants and products must be rendered “unusable and unrecognizable.” This must be accomplished by grinding and incorporating the marijuana waste with any of the non-consumable, solid wastes listed below and the resulting mixture must be at least 50 percent non-marijuana waste. Such wastes include:

- Paper waste, plastic waste, cardboard waste, food waste, grease or other compostable oil waste, bokashi or other compost activators and soil.

(Other wastes may be approved by the Department of Revenue’s Marijuana Enforcement Division to render the marijuana and marijuana-infused product waste unusable and unrecognizable as marijuana.)

Connecticut

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DCP/pdf/laws_and_regulations/REGMEDICALMARIJUANAFINAL06Sept2013pdf.pdf?la=en

(NEW) Sec. 21a-408-64. Disposal of marijuana

(a) A dispensary, producer, laboratory, law enforcement or court official or the commissioner or the commissioner’s authorized representative shall dispose of undesired, excess, unauthorized, obsolete, adulterated, misbranded or deteriorated marijuana in the following manner:

(1) By surrender without compensation of such marijuana to the commissioner or the commissioner’s authorized representative; or

(2) By disposal in the presence of an authorized representative of the commissioner in such a manner as to render the marijuana non-recoverable

Delaware

[https://regulations.delaware.gov/AdminCode/title16/Department%20of%20Health%20and%20Social%20Services/Division%20of%20Public%20Health/Health%20Systems%20Protection%20\(HSP\)/4470.shtml](https://regulations.delaware.gov/AdminCode/title16/Department%20of%20Health%20and%20Social%20Services/Division%20of%20Public%20Health/Health%20Systems%20Protection%20(HSP)/4470.shtml)

7.1.5.4 Medical marijuana waste shall be rendered unusable through grinding and incorporating the medical marijuana waste with non-consumable, solid wastes listed below such that the resulting mixture is at least 50% non-marijuana waste:

7.1.5.4.1 Paper waste,

7.1.5.4.2 Plastic waste,

7.1.5.4.3 Cardboard waste,

7.1.5.4.4 Food waste,

7.1.5.4.5 Soil,

7.1.5.4.6 Grease or other compostable oil waste

Florida

<https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=64ER20-16>

64ER20-16 MMTC Marijuana Waste Management and Disposal

(1) As used in this rule, the term “Marijuana Waste” includes the following materials:

(a) Plant material waste, which means leaves, stalks, stems, roots, and any other part of the marijuana plant that is not processed with solvent or used in the processing of marijuana to generate usable product; (b) Processing waste, which means spent solvents, lab wastes, and similar materials used in the processing of marijuana;

(c) Product waste, which means marijuana and usable product that is unfit for sale or consumption. Product waste includes unused, returned, surplus, contaminated, recalled, and expired marijuana or usable product; and (d) Other contaminated materials ready for disposal. “Contaminated materials” mean any item, object, utensil, material, or tool that contained or came in contact with marijuana or usable product and cannot be cleaned of marijuana residue. An MMTC may clean contaminated material using any method that completely eliminates any trace marijuana residuals from the material. Once the material is verified to be void of any marijuana residue, the material may be recycled or disposed of like any other non-marijuana waste that falls outside the scope of this rule.

(2) Marijuana Waste must be rendered unusable and unrecognizable before it leaves an MMTTC facility or is composted onsite, as provided in subparagraph (4)(b)3. Marijuana Waste is unrecognizable if all components are homogenous and indistinguishable. Marijuana Waste is unusable if it is incapable of being salvaged and consumed through any means.

(a) Marijuana Waste that is composted must be rendered unusable and unrecognizable by grinding and mixing the compostable Marijuana Waste with at least an equal amount of other compostable materials (e.g., food waste, yard waste, vegetable-based grease or oils).

(b) Marijuana Waste that is not composted must be rendered unusable and unrecognizable by grinding the Marijuana Waste with at least an equal amount of other compostable materials (e.g., food waste, yard waste, vegetable-based grease or oils) or non-compostable materials (e.g., paper waste, cardboard waste, plastic waste, or oil), or both.

(3) Marijuana Waste that cannot be rendered unusable and unrecognizable, as required by subsection (2), must be rendered irretrievable by permanently altering its physical or chemical condition through irreversible means such that it cannot be transformed to a physical or chemical condition or state as marijuana or a substance with a chemical structure or effect that is similar to marijuana.

Hawaii

https://health.hawaii.gov/medicalcannabisdispensary/files/2017/03/Hawaii-Medicinal-Application_Redacted.pdf

Rendering Marijuana Waste Unrecoverable The manufacturing facility will use the grinding method to render marijuana waste unrecoverable. This is the method most used by regulated medical marijuana facilities in other states. The grinding method effectively destroys the psychoactive as well as non-psychoactive molecules of marijuana and marijuana products, ensuring that marijuana waste is undesirable and does not create a nuisance for public safety officers. The grinding method uses an electric leaf mulcher machine to grind marijuana waste into mulch. The waste is then incorporated with other types of non-consumable solid waste so that the resulting mixture is at least fifty percent nonmarijuana waste. The Hawaii Medicinal Options manufacturing facility will incorporate the following types of non-consumable solid waste: i. Paper waste (cardboard, office paper, newspaper, etc.) ii. Organic food waste iii. Non-psychoactive plant waste, including root balls and mature stems iv. Yard waste The machine used will be capable of grinding marijuana waste into fine mulch, with a motor capable of running for extended time periods when necessary.

Illinois

<https://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/008/008010000E04600R.html>

Section 1000.460 Waste Disposal

f) The allowable method to render cannabis plant waste unusable is by grinding and incorporating the cannabis plant waste with other ground materials so the resulting mixture is at least 50% non-cannabis waste by volume. Other methods to render cannabis waste unusable must be approved by the Department before implementation. Material used to grind with the cannabis falls into two categories: compostable waste and noncompostable waste.

Maine

<https://www.maine.gov/dafs/omp/adult-use/rules-statutes/18-691-C.M.R.-ch.-1>

9.2 - Marijuana Waste

In addition to any other provisions of 28-B MRS, this Rule or other applicable laws or rules, non-hazardous marijuana wastes shall be managed in accordance with the following:

A. A marijuana plant, marijuana, trim and other plant material in itself is not considered hazardous waste unless it is toxic, flammable or a listed waste subject to regulation under Department of Environmental Protection Rule Chapter 850.

B. Non-hazardous marijuana waste that is to be disposed of must be rendered unusable prior to leaving a marijuana establishment by one of the following methods:

(1) Grinding and incorporating the marijuana waste with other ground materials so the resulting mixture is at least fifty percent non-marijuana waste by volume, including:

(a) Food waste;

(b) Yard waste; or

(c) Other wastes approved by the Department

Massechusetts

<https://mass-cannabis-control.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/935cmr500.pdf>

3. Solid waste containing Marijuana generated at a Marijuana Establishment shall be ground up and mixed with other solid waste at the Marijuana Establishment such that the resulting mixture renders any Marijuana unusable for its original purpose. Once such Marijuana has been rendered unusable, the resulting solid waste may be brought to a solid waste transfer facility or a solid waste disposal facility (e.g., landfill or incinerator) that holds a valid permit issued by the Department of Environmental Protection or by the appropriate agency in the jurisdiction in which the facility is located.

Michigan

<https://www.michigan.gov/mra/0,9306,7-386-83994-454564--,00.html>

Rule 36. Marihuana product destruction and waste management.

(1) Marihuana product that is to be destroyed or is considered waste must be rendered into an unusable and unrecognizable form and recorded in the statewide monitoring system.

Minnesota

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/4770.1200/>

Subp. 2. Medical cannabis and plant material waste. A medical cannabis manufacturer must store, secure, and manage medical cannabis waste and plant material waste in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations.

§C. Before transport, the manufacturer must render plant material waste unusable and unrecognizable by grinding and incorporating the waste with a greater quantity of nonconsumable, solid wastes including: (1) paper waste;

(2) cardboard waste;

(3) food waste;

(4) yard waste;

(5) vegetative wastes generated from industrial or manufacturing processes that prepare food for human consumption;

(6) soil; or

§(7) other waste approved by the commissioner.

Mississippi

<https://www.ilga.gov/commission/Jcar/admincode/008/008010000E04600R.html>

d) Cannabis waste must be rendered unusable following the methods set forth in this Section prior to leaving a cultivation center. Disposal of the cannabis waste rendered unusable must follow the methods in this Section.

Missouri

<https://casetext.com/regulation/missouri-administrative-code/title-19-department-of-health-and-senior-services/division-30-division-of-regulation-and-licensure/chapter-95-medical-marijuana/section-19-csr-30-95040-medical-marijuana-facilities-generally>

4. Medical marijuana waste that does not qualify as hazardous waste per 40 CFR 262.11 must be rendered unusable prior to leaving a facility, including plant waste, such as roots, stalks, leaves, and stems;

Montana

<http://www.mtrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?RN=37.107.413>

37.107.413 WASTE MANAGEMENT

(1) A licensee must store, manage, and dispose of solid and liquid waste generated during marijuana production and processing in accordance with applicable state and local laws and regulations.

(2) A licensee must store marijuana waste in a secured waste receptacle in the possession of and under the control of the licensee.

(3) The allowable method to render marijuana plant waste unusable is by grinding and incorporating the marijuana plant waste with other ground materials so the resulting mixture is at least fifty percent nonmarijuana waste by volume.

Material used to grind with the marijuana falls into two categories: compostable waste and noncompostable waste.

- (a) Compostable mixed waste is marijuana waste to be disposed as compost feedstock or in another organic waste method, such as an anaerobic digester, mixed with food waste, yard waste, or vegetable based grease or oils.
- (b) Noncompostable mixed waste is marijuana waste to be disposed in a landfill or another disposal method, such as an incinerator, mixed with paper waste, cardboard waste, plastic waste, or soil.
- (4) Waste that must be rendered unusable prior to disposal includes:
 - (a) marijuana plant waste, including roots, stalks, leaves, and stems that have not been processed with solvent;
 - (b) waste solvents used in the marijuana process;
 - (c) spent solvents, laboratory waste, and excess marijuana from any quality assurance testing; and (d) marijuana items that ultimately fail to meet testing requirements.

Nevada

<https://ccb.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Effective-NCCR-as-of-Nov-2020.pdf>

3. Unless another method approved by the Board is used, waste containing cannabis must be rendered unusable by grinding and incorporating the waste with:

- (a) For disposal using an organic method other than composting, the following kinds of compostable mixed waste:
 - (1) Food waste;
 - (2) Yard waste;
 - (3) Soil; or
 - (4) Other waste as approved by the Board; or
- (b) For disposal in a landfill or other method not described in paragraph (a), the following kinds of noncompostable mixed waste:
 - (1) Paper waste;
 - (2) Cardboard waste;
 - (3) Plastic waste; or
 - (4) Other waste as approved by the Board.

The amount of waste containing cannabis in the resulting mixture must be less than 50 percent by volume. Such waste must not be disposed of by composting.

New Jersey

<https://norrisclaughlin.com/ig/2019/11/14/new-jersey-marijuana-waste-disposal-requirements-for-dispensaries-and-alternative-treatment-centers/>

In order to dispose of the “unusable marijuana” as solid waste or composting, ATCs shall first render it useless for diversion by:

- Finely shredding or grinding the unusable marijuana; and
- Mixing the finely shredded/ground plant waste with non-consumable, biodegradable material or other ground materials so the resulting mixture is at least 50% non-marijuana waste by volume.

New Mexico

N.M. Code R. § 7.34.4.11

7.34.4.11 WASTAGE OF CANNABIS; PERMITTED METHODS: A non-profit producer or approved entity that wastes usable cannabis or cannabis plants shall do so by rendering the cannabis unusable and unrecognizable, in accordance with the requirements of this rule, prior to removal from licensed premises.

New York

<https://regs.health.ny.gov/volume-e-title-10/1469209225/section-100424-registered-organizations-disposal-medical-marihuana>

1004.24 Registered organizations; disposal of medical marihuana

- (a) The disposal of medical marihuana shall mean that the medical marihuana has been rendered unrecoverable and beyond reclamation.

North Dakota

<https://www.legis.nd.gov/information/acdata/pdf/33-44-01.pdf>

4. The required method for rendering medical marijuana waste unusable is by grinding the medical marijuana waste and incorporating it with other ground materials so the volume of the resulting mixture is less than fifty percent medical marijuana waste. All other methods for rendering medical marijuana waste unusable must be approved by the department before implementation.

Ohio

<https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-3796:6-3-14>

Rule 3796:6-3-14 | Destruction and disposal of medical marijuana.

Ohio Administrative Code/3796:6/Chapter 3796:6-3 | Operations

Effective: September 8, 2017 Promulgated Under:119.03

(A) Medical marijuana products must be destroyed by rendering it unusable following the methods set forth in this rule.

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(C) Unless otherwise required by local, state, or federal waste management authorities, the allowable method for rendering marijuana waste unusable is by grinding and incorporating the marijuana waste with other ground material so the resulting mixture is at least fifty percent non-marijuana waste. Other methods to render marijuana waste unusable must be approved by the state board of pharmacy before implementation. Material used to grind with the marijuana falls into two categories, compostable waste and non-compostable waste.

Oklahoma

https://ensosolutionsllc.com/bill_882.pdf

The Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Waste Management Act authorizes commercial licensees (growers, dispensaries, processors), research facilities and educational facilities to destroy the following marijuana plant parts without being required to use the services of a medical marijuana waste disposal facility:

Root balls;

Stems;

Fan leaves; and Seeds

Unless restricted by local ordinance, the listed plant parts can be destroyed on-site by: Open burning;

Incineration;

Burying;

Mulching;

Composting, or

Any other technique approved by the Department of Environmental Quality.

Oregon

<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/Regulations/Pages/Marijuana-Regulation.aspx>

How to make items unfit for consumption

The following guidelines provide processors guidance on how to render items unfit for consumption and provide information on how to dispose of them. OLCC also provides guidance on how to keep such material secure. Plants and usable marijuana

The material should be composted or disposed of in a landfill if composting isn't available. To render it unfit for consumption, use one of the following methods:

For composting - Mix with yard debris, wood chips, sawdust or manure

For landfill disposal - Mix with soil, sand or other garbage

Burn if permitted by law

Liquid or solid concentrates or extracts

Determine if the material is hazardous waste. For more guidance on how to make such determinations, see the hazardous waste section above or contact DEQ for assistance and information on proper disposal.

Pennsylvania

<https://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/secure/pacode/data/028/chapter1151/s1151.40.html>

The following types of medical marijuana waste shall be rendered unusable and unrecognizable prior to being transported from a grower/processor or an approved laboratory:

- (1) Unused, surplus, returned, recalled, contaminated or expired medical marijuana.
- (2) Any medical marijuana plant material that is not used in the growing, harvesting or processing of medical marijuana, including flowers, stems, trim, leaves, seeds, dead medical marijuana plants, dead immature medical marijuana plants, unused medical marijuana plant parts, unused immature medical marijuana plant parts or roots.
- (c) Medical marijuana waste is unusable and unrecognizable if all components of the waste are indistinguishable and incapable of being ingested, inhaled, injected, swallowed or otherwise used for certified medical use. Acceptable methods of rendering the waste unusable and unrecognizable include thermal treatment or melting; shredding, grinding or tearing; and incorporating the medical marijuana waste with other municipal waste.

Rhode Island

Section 216-RICR-60-05-6.16 - Waste Disposal

A. Marijuana Waste and Destruction of Usable Medical Marijuana

1. Marijuana and marijuana product waste (including all liquid, chemical, hazardous, pesticide, manufacturing solvent and chemical waste containing any traces of marijuana) must be stored, secured, and managed in accordance with all applicable state, and local statutes, regulations, ordinances, or other legal requirements.
2. Prior to disposal, marijuana and marijuana product waste must be made unusable and any marijuana plant material made indistinguishable from other plant material. This may be accomplished by grinding and incorporating the marijuana plant waste with other non-consumable solid waste or other ground materials so the resulting mixture is at least fifty percent non-marijuana waste by volume. Other methods to render marijuana waste unusable must be approved by DBR before implementing. Marijuana waste rendered unusable following an approved method may be delivered to a licensed solid waste disposal facility in Rhode Island for final disposition or disposed of in an alternative manner approved by DBR.

Utah

<https://medicalcannabis.utah.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/R68-27.pdf>

- 5) Cannabis waste, which is not designated as hazardous, shall be rendered unusable by grinding and incorporating the cannabis plant waste with other ground materials so the resulting mixture is at least fifty percent non-cannabis waste by volume or other methods approved by the department before implementation.

Washington

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=314-55-097>

- (4) Marijuana waste that does not designate as dangerous waste (per subsection (3) of this section) must be rendered unuseable following the methods in subsection (5) of this section prior to leaving a licensed producer, processor, or labora-tory. Disposal of the marijuana waste rendered unuseable must follow the methods under subsection (6) of this section.