

Water Quality Impacts

- Cannabis cultivation activities, including preparing the site for growing operations, can cause erosion and stream habitat degradation.
- Unlawful water diversions by those cultivating cannabis limits the amount of water available to the public and wildlife.
- Fertilizers and pesticides used at these sites contaminate streams.
- Garbage from cannabis growing operations can end up in our streams.
- Dirt from building roads can pollute water bodies.
- Not properly disposing of human waste is a health hazard.

*We are committed to
working with the public
and ensuring sites are
in compliance.*



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Cannabis Cultivation in California

If you grow,
you need to know!





Do I need a permit?

Obtain the necessary permits from state and local agencies.

The following activities on your property require a permit:

- Digging or using heavy equipment in a stream or wetland;
- Conducting activities that could result in rain washing dirt into a stream or wetland;
- Unauthorized diversion of water from a stream;
- Placing any material or structure like a culvert or dam in a stream;
- Building roads, landings, terraces or other structures that involve movement or placement of dirt;
- Grading, excavating, or otherwise moving earth.

What if I don't get a permit or follow the rules?

Impacts from cannabis cultivation are regulated and growers need to comply with regulations or be subject to enforcement.

Which may require you to:

- Pay significant fines;
- Clean up your property;
- Obtain the necessary permits.

The following activities can threaten water quality and put you at risk of regulatory enforcement:

- Storage and use of pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, fuel, or other chemicals.
- Improper storage and/or disposal of solid waste like garbage, dead plant material, or waste soil.

What Can You Do?

Educate friends and neighbors on the issues.

Report water quality problems:

NORTH COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

(707) 576-2350

diana.henriouille@waterboards.ca.gov

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD – REDDING

(530) 224-4845

clint.snyder@waterboards.ca.gov

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD – OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT

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For more information:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/enforcement/cannabis_enforcement.shtml