

# Cannabis odor control and air filtration plan – policy document

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## Purpose and scope

On November 9, 2024, new zoning regulations went into effect for the City of Minneapolis for cannabis businesses. The new regulations states that:

Cannabis cultivation, cannabis dispensary, cannabis wholesaler, and cannabis and lower-potency hemp edible manufacturing uses shall submit an odor control and air filtration plan. The odor control and air filtration plan shall be implemented prior to the issuance of final building inspection and/or throughout operation of the use, as applicable, as approved and inspected by the Commissioner of Health. Odor control and air filtration measures must comply with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 342, and rules adopted pursuant to the chapter, and all other applicable regulations.

This policy document provides the format and content for the odor control and air filtration plan that cannabis businesses shall submit to the Minneapolis Health Department. The odor control and air filtration plan is intended to prevent odors from being experienced within residential zones.

The rules and guidance provided in this document are subject to change.

## Odor control and air filtration plan

The Odor Control and Air Filtration plan must include the following:

1. A floor plan, specifying locations of odor-emitting activity(ies) and emissions.
  - a. The floor plan shall indicate that the building is enclosed (no open windows or doors during operation).
2. A description of the specific odor-emitting activity(ies) that will occur and operating hours.
3. A description and schedule of (e.g., frequency and length of each phase) of odor-emitting activity(ies).
4. A description of all equipment and methods to be used for reducing odors. Approved odor control systems may include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Activated carbon filtration systems.
  - b. Vapor-phase systems. Vapor-phase systems must comply with the following:
    - i. The resulting odors must be odor-neutralizing, not odor-masking.
    - ii. The technology must not be utilized in excessive amounts to produce a differing scent (such as pine or citrus).

- iii. Use of these systems must have supporting documentation to demonstrate that the systems meet United States Environmental Protection Agency's Acute Exposure Guideline Levels or similar public health threshold.
  - c. Other odor controls systems or project siting practices that demonstrate effectiveness in controlling odors. Approved odor control systems must be odor-neutralizing, not odor-masking.
5. The manufacturer's maintenance schedule for any equipment, and a plan from the facility for maintenance of said equipment. Equipment shall work properly at all times.
6. Designation of an individual (local contact) who is available by telephone to respond within one (1) hour of a call during normal business hours and responsible for responding to odor complaints.
7. Acknowledgement that the applicant shall allow the Health Department access to the facility at all times, without notice, for the purpose of inspecting odor mitigation practices and odor source(s).

The Odor Control and Air Filtration plan must be signed off by licensed Professional Engineer prior to submission to the Minneapolis Health Department. The submitted plan will be reviewed by Health Commissioner's designee.

## Best practices and resources

### Harvesting times

- Avoid evening / overnight harvesting in or adjacent to residential uses.
- Avoid harvesting plants on high ozone days to minimize adverse impacts to air quality.

### Resources

- [Colorado's 2022 Cannabis Environmental Best Management Practices Guide](#): for odor mitigation see pages 19-23, HVAC/Dehumidification & Odor Control; and pages 67-71, Best Management Practice
- [Minneapolis cannabis business regulations ordinance \(2024\)](#)

## Contact information

If you have questions about odor enforcement or the cannabis odor control and air filtration plan, please contact:

### Minneapolis Health Department

#### [Environmental Services](#)

Email: [Minneapolis311@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Minneapolis311@minneapolismn.gov)

Phone: 311 or [612- 673-3000](tel:612-673-3000)

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact **Minneapolis Health Department**, [health@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:health@minneapolismn.gov) or **612-673-2301**. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-263-6850.

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