

# County of Santa Clara

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Agriculture Division



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## INDUSTRIAL HEMP RECOMMENDED BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES - SANTA CLARA COUNTY

### General

- Each industrial hemp operation for cultivation and/or research shall be limited to a cumulative total of 250 Acres. Map of areas suitable to be cultivated is located at <https://ag.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb456/files/Document/Attachment%20A%20-%20Corrected%20Map%20of%20Lands%20Eligible%20for%20Hemp%20Operations%20in%20Santa%20Clara%20County.pdf>
- No industrial hemp operation is allowed within one-quarter (1/4) mile from any sensitive receptor (city urban service area boundary lines; parcels in the RR, "Rural Residential" zoning district; and legally established child day-care facilities, hospitals, medical facilities, religious institutions, wineries, schools, and playfields).
- No industrial hemp operation is allowed within 200 feet from any dwelling unit or public or private road right-of-way. An exception to this setback requirement may be granted by the Planning Director through the Planning Clearance process.
- For indoor industrial hemp operations, the buffer and setback requirements specified above shall not be required if appropriate air purification systems and air scrubbers, as determined by the Planning Director or designee, are installed within the premises to control odor.
- Signage. Each industrial hemp operation site shall post signage with appropriate size and content to clearly identify that the site is for industrial hemp operation. The signage shall be located at the main entrance to the parcel, entrance to an indoor facility, and at intervals no less than 600 feet along an exterior perimeter facing a public or private road.
- Source and plant clean approved cultivar propagative material and nursery stock.
- Before planting, inspect stock and avoid planting material with pests and diseases. If the nursery stock was imported into the county the commissioner must be notified. The shipment is subject to inspection by the commissioner and cannot be used for cultivation until it is released by the commissioner
- Where appropriate, hedgerows, windbreaks, and/or buffers should be established between the cultivation site and adjacent land uses.

### Pesticides

- Comply with all pesticide laws and regulations as enforced by the California Department of Pesticide Regulations.
- Prior to the use of any pesticide, obtain an Operator Identification Number from the Santa Clara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office.

### Water Use

- Irrigation should be conducted in manner that does not result in runoff from cultivated areas.
- Inspect irrigation system regularly for leaks and repair leaks before and during each cropping season.

- Irrigation systems should be equipped with a backflow prevention device to protect water sources.
- Where practicable, employ water saving practices such as rainwater catchment systems, mulches, drip-irrigation, and water recycling and filtration systems.