

# MN CANNABIS LEGALIZATION SUMMARY

AITKIN COUNTY, MN PUBLIC HEALTH



**Public Health**  
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## KEY DATES\*

- **July 1, 2022:** Low-potency edibles made with THC from industrial hemp legalized.
- **May 30, 2023:** MN becomes 23rd state to legalize recreational adult-use cannabis.
- **July 1, 2023:** Cannabis tax on retail sales starts.
- **August 1, 2023:** Full decriminalization, allowing legal adult-use cannabis possession, consumption, and home growing begins.
- **October 1, 2023:** All establishments that sell lower-potency hemp products containing THC, CBD, or both, must register with the State of Minnesota.
- **Early 2025:** License applications anticipated for adult-use cannabis and lower-potency hemp product businesses.
- **First quarter, 2025:** Anticipated start date for retail cannabis sales.
- **March 1, 2025:** Office of Cannabis Management takes over management of adult-use cannabis and Minnesota's medical cannabis program.
- **March 1, 2025:** Lower-potency edibles may only contain hemp-derived Delta-9 THC. (Delta-8 and other isomers no longer allowed)

\*Dates subject to change pending rulemaking outcomes or legislative action. See MN Office of Cannabis Management's website for updates.

Beginning August 1, 2023, adults 21 and older can legally use and possess certain amounts of cannabis in Minnesota.\*\* The law permits use by people 21 and older on private property (unless the owner prohibits use of cannabis on their property), private residence, and at places with approved licenses or an event permit. Business sales, event permits, and licensing are expected to begin in early 2025. Minnesota will continue to have a medical cannabis program, of which sales will not be taxed. All other cannabis product sales are subject to 10% tax in addition to state and local sales taxes.

\*\*For specifics on possession limits, visit [cannabis.state.mn.us/consumers](https://cannabis.state.mn.us/consumers)

## PERSONAL USE

Persons 21 and older may:

- Use, possess, or transport cannabis paraphernalia and products.
- Use cannabis products in a private residence (unless prohibited by the owner) and at a business or event licensed to permit on-site consumption.
- Possess up to eight (8) cannabis plants, with no more than four (4) being mature. Plants must be in an enclosed, locked space that is not open for public view.

Persons 21 and older may NOT:

- Use cannabis in a motor vehicle or in any location where smoking is prohibited under the MN Clean Indoor Air Act. (MN.144411-144417)
- Operate a motor vehicle under the influence of cannabis or hemp products.
- Give cannabis or hemp products to individuals under 21.
- Use or possess cannabis in public/charter school or school bus.
- Use or possess cannabis in a state correctional facility.
- Use in location where smoke, aerosol, or vapor could be inhaled by a minor.
- Smoke or vape cannabis products in a multifamily housing building.
- Use cannabis on federal property (such as courthouses, airports, national parks)

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## OFFICE OF CANNABIS MANAGEMENT

The new legislation creates the Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management (OCM), a state agency which will oversee and regulate the adult-use and low-potency hemp edible markets as well as the Minnesota Medical Cannabis Program. The OCM will also review licensing applications for retail cannabis businesses, appropriate funds for youth prevention, education and addiction recovery programs, and award grants for cannabis businesses and farmers. Until the OCM is fully established in early 2025, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) will continue to operate the Office of Medical Cannabis and as of October 1, 2023, will also take over responsibility for regulating the currently legal lower-potency edibles from the Board of Pharmacy.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local government can institute regulations, however they are limited. Local government cannot prohibit possession, transport, or use within jurisdiction and may not prohibit the establishment or operation of a cannabis business outright. A local unit of government must certify whether a proposed cannabis business complies with local zoning ordinances within 30 days of receiving a copy of an application for a cannabis business license from the OCM.

### Local Government CAN:

- Instate reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of the operation of a cannabis business.
- Adopt an interim ordinance to protect health/safety/welfare, including to regulate, restrict or prohibit cannabis business until January 1, 2025.
- Inform employers they are not required to allow cannabis use/possession at the worksite.
- Prohibit the operation of all cannabis businesses and operations within 1,000 feet of a school; or 500 feet of a daycare, residential treatment facility, or a children's attraction within a public park.
- By ordinance, limit the number of licensed cannabis retailers, cannabis mezzo-businesses, and cannabis micro-businesses to no fewer than one registration for every 12,500 residents.
- Approve/reject cannabis events starting early 2025.
- Reinforce the MN Clean Indoor Air Act.

## SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE USE

- Cannabis should never be used before driving a vehicle or operating heavy machinery. Driving under the influence of cannabis is illegal and subject to additional DWI sanctions. Learn more at [Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety's website](#).
- If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, or have been diagnosed with, or are predisposed to mental illness, talk with your health care provider or pharmacist before using cannabis.
- To avoid dangerous interactions with prescribed medications, talk to your health care provider or pharmacist before using cannabis.
- Make sure cannabis is stored safely. Keep products in child and pet-resistant packaging, clearly labeled, and locked up.
- If you think cannabis use is disrupting your daily life or causing problems at home, work, or school, talk with your health care provider or a substance use counselor.

## CONTACT

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