



JACKSON COUNTY

Oregon

Development Services

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Hemp in Jackson County - FAQ

State and Federal laws surrounding hemp do not give local jurisdictions like Jackson County authority to enact time, manner, place regulations. This means Jackson County cannot impose any regulations upon hemp farms that would not be placed on any other farm crop or business.

There are however, current regulations in place that may address violations of local codified and land development ordinances. If you have a concern, or question about a hemp site, you are encouraged to contact Code Enforcement at 541-774-6906.

Is hemp considered cannabis?

Yes. Hemp is cannabis that contains no more than 0.3% THC.

Is there a limit to the amount of hemp that can be grown?

No. Neither the County, nor the State regulate the size of hemp production sites.

Are there ordinances for the odor emitted from hemp grow sites?

No. The odor emitted from hemp sites is not regulated or enforceable.

Can I grow hemp for personal use?

State law allows you to grow four (4) cannabis plants *per household*. You must be over the age of 21, and may grow any combination of marijuana or hemp.

Does the County require a permit to grow only hemp?

The County requires that hemp businesses provide a copy of their current Oregon Department of Agriculture registration to Development Services for all properties for which they are registered. Staff will issue a Zoning Information Sheet to note the site on the property.

Can a business grow marijuana and hemp on the same property?

Yes. The County would require either an amendment to an existing marijuana land use approval, or a new land use approval for marijuana and hemp production.

What if the property I want to grow hemp on was previously used for marijuana?

An updated land use approval would be required. You are encouraged to check with Development Services on the current land use approvals for the property you wish to grow on.

Can a well be used to water a hemp site?

Water for cultivation/growth of hemp, whether in a greenhouse or not, does not require a water right permit provided that the irrigation is no more than one-half acre in area and the cultivation is non-commercial. Use of groundwater to grow hemp plants where there is intent to profit requires a water right issued by the Oregon Water Resources Department. Please contact the District 13 Watermaster at (541)774-6880 if you have questions or visit our web page at <http://jacksoncountyor.org/Departments/Watermaster/Home>.

How do I file a complaint about a site I believe is not utilizing lawful water?

The Oregon Water Resource Department has jurisdiction over all Oregon water related violations. Visit their website at <http://www.oregon.gov/OWRD/pages/index.aspx> for more information, or call 541-774-6880 to file a water use complaint.

Are there noise ordinances for generators, tractors, or other farm equipment?

No. There are no noise ordinances in the unincorporated areas of Jackson County.

Are additional approvals required to process hemp into extracts?

Yes. The extraction method will dictate the approval that is required. You are encouraged to contact Development Services *prior* to starting any type of extraction business.

I am worried about the use of pesticides and fertilizers near my well, or other water source. Who do I contact?

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), Agricultural Water Quality Program and The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Quality Program has jurisdiction and regulations regarding water quality concerns related to agricultural activities.

Additional Resources:

Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD): <http://www.oregon.gov/OWRD/pages/index.aspx>

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA): <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/agriculture/Pages/Cannabis.aspx>

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ): <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/Pages/air-n-water.aspx>