

Marijuana Ordinance – Frequently Asked Questions

Disclaimer: This FAQ is intended to provide residents, prospective business owners and the general public with guidance in regards to the State Marijuana Laws and the City of Westland's Marijuana Business Ordinance. It is not a supplement to the ordinance which details further restrictions and is the law and rule regulating marijuana-related businesses in the City.

Is Marijuana legal in Michigan?

- Yes! On November 6, 2018, voters in the Great Lake State passed Proposal 1, making Michigan the 10th state in America to legalize recreational cannabis. Cannabis use is now legal for any adult 21 years of age or older. Medical marijuana is also legal in Michigan for qualified patients with valid registry identification cards.

Are Marijuana Businesses allowed in the City of Westland?

- Yes! On October 21, 2019, the City Council adopted a Marijuana Business Ordinance that strictly regulates and allows Marijuana Businesses to operate within the City of Westland. In addition to Proposal 1, the ordinance provides additional safety regulations that include protections for residential neighborhoods.

When can I apply to open my Marijuana Business Location?

- The City of Westland is in the process of establishing an application and selection process. There is no timetable for completion. Until these procedures are developed no one can apply to open a Marijuana Business.

What can I do to prepare while I wait for the application and selection process?

- Applicants will need to be prequalified by the State of Michigan therefore working on obtaining prequalification in the meantime is recommended.

How many and what type of Marijuana Businesses are allowed?

- One secure transporter in industrial zoning districts.
- One microbusiness in industrial zoning districts.
- One safety compliance facility in commercial, office or industrial zoning districts
- Two marijuana retailers in commercial zoning districts. One north of Ford Road, One South of Ford Road.
- Three collocated facilities in industrial zoning districts.

Are there separation distance requirements (buffers)?

- All Marijuana Business are prohibited within 1,000 feet of a school.
- All retailers/provisioning centers are prohibited within 250 feet of any residential zoned parcel. Please remember that a residential zoned parcel could be vacant or used by another land use such as a church or park.

- All retailers/provisioning centers and safety compliance facilities are prohibited with 5,000 feet of any other Marijuana Business excluding those operating in industrial zoning districts.
- All separation distances are measured from nearest property line to the nearest property line of subject properties, regardless of ownership.

Are there any areas in the City where Marijuana Business are prohibited?

- Yes, in addition to areas protected by buffer rules, the City Centre District which is designated as a Special Planning Area.

Are marijuana grow facilities allowed?

- Standalone marijuana grows are NOT allowed however the City is allowing three collocated facilities and one microbusiness in the industrial zoning districts.

What is a collocated facility?

- A Marijuana Business that operates at least one of the following licenses at the same location along with a retailer: marijuana grow or marijuana processes.

Do I have to choose between either a medical Marijuana Business or an adult-use (recreational) business?

- No, the City may issue equivalent licenses to a business location if it requests and qualifies for both medical and adult-use. However, a business location can choose to operate only a medical or adult-use business.

Can people grow cannabis inside of their home?

- Yes. Adults 21 years of age or older, qualifying patients or approved caregivers may grow up to 12 plants, so long as they are grown in an enclosed, secure location.

Where can people consume marijuana in Michigan?

- Both Medical and Adult-use marijuana consumption is only allowed on private property out of view from the public.