



COMPLIANCE ALERT

Cannabis & Green Waste Destruction Regulations

Updated July 2026

Division of Cannabis Regulation

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Compliance Issue

Pursuant to 8 IAC Part 1300.810(a), a cultivation center, craft grower, or infuser must notify the Illinois Department of Agriculture and ISP prior to destruction of cannabis waste which includes cannabis byproduct, scrap, harvested cannabis and cannabis-infused products not intended for distribution to a dispensing organization.

8 IAC PART 1300 CANNABIS REGULATION AND TAX ACT

SUBPART I: DESTRUCTION OF CANNABIS

[Section 1300.800 Scope](#)

[Section 1300.810 Notice to the Department](#)

Section 1300.810 Notice to the Department

- a) A cultivation center, craft grower, or infuser shall, before destruction, notify the Department and ISP. [710 ILCS 705/55-15(b)] Upon receiving notice, the Department may require that an employee of the Department be present to witness the destruction.
- b) A cultivation center, craft grower, or infuser shall provide the Department and ISP a minimum of 7 days' notice prior to rendering the product unusable and disposing of the product. The Department may require the cannabis business organization to hold product for up to 7 days for further inspection or investigation.

[Section 1300.820 Method of Destruction](#)

[Section 1300.830 Records](#)

[Section 1300.840 Disposal](#)

Compliance Objective

The Illinois Department of Agriculture, Division of Cannabis Regulation ("Department"), is providing this guidance to assist licensees with the uniform application of cannabis waste and green waste destruction regulations.

All cultivation centers, craft growers, or infusers shall provide notice, at least 7 days in advance, to the Department and ISP of when product disposal actions will occur. Licensees may provide the Department with multiple recurring scheduled disposal periods as long as the Department has notice 7 days in advance of destruction activity (i.e. a licensee can establish every Tuesday and Thursday as a disposal period). Once the recurring notice has been provided, the 7-day notice requirement has been satisfied.

Product may be disposed of during any notified disposal period as long as it was held for at least 72 hours prior to destruction, properly entered into **Metrc**, and the following information is provided to the Department by email, 72 hours in advance.

The purpose of this email is to notify the Department of our scheduled destruction on _____. Below is a description of what is being destroyed with the type of product, associated ID, quantity of each lot being destroyed, method of destruction, and reason for the destruction. We will be conducting destruction in front of the camera view _____ so the Department can have visual on the process. The supervisor performing the destruction is _____.

Update: Cultivation centers and craft growers may submit an Application for Alteration outlining a plan to dispose of certain types of green waste (e.g., undried plant material) without the 72-hour hold. This waste must first be entered into Metrc, and licensees should clearly specify the types of green waste intended for destruction in their application. For example, a Cultivation Center and/or Craft Grower may submit an Alteration Application that proposes destruction of plant stalks either during or immediately following a harvest action. Upon application approval, Cultivation Centers and/or Craft Growers may destroy green waste / plant stalks right away, as long as the destruction activity is entered into Metrc.

When recording waste in ***Metrc***, a date is required at the time of entry. The Department advises licensees to use the intended date of destruction in this field, even if this date is in the future. The specific details of any destruction event must still be reported to the Department by email in accordance with the guidelines outlined in this bulletin.

Waste does not require an individual Metrc plant or package tag, however the system will generate an identification number that should be placed on the waste batch prior to disposal for purposes of traceability. The number may be written or printed on the waste batch in any form as long as it is identifiable.

The Department may notify licensees to hold product longer than 72 hours in specific instances for inspection. Licensees may reach out to the Department with changes to their standard process when necessary.

Example: Cultivation Center A performs all destruction on Wednesdays and Fridays at 2pm. Cultivation Center A would send an email to the Department stating that all destruction events will occur at these times. 72 hours prior to the destruction event the Cultivation Center must schedule for destruction the product that will be destroyed in ***Metrc*** and send an email to the Department with the above information.

Questions

For questions related to this Compliance Alert, please contact the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Division of Cannabis, Bureau of Inspections by emailing AGR.CannabisInspections@Illinois.gov.