VERMONT

CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD
89 Main Street Montpelier, VT 05602 | ccb.vermont.gov

GUIDANCE ON OUTDOOR SECURITY BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES: FENCING

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Introduction to Outdoor Security Best Management Practices

The Board deems the following measures to be Outdoor Security Best Management Practices (see Rule 2.4.1). The combination of measures required is dependent upon cultivation tier, as outlined below.

a) fencing;
b) video surveillance system with unobscured views of area;
c) alarm system;
d) photographic surveillance;
e) motion activated flood-light, which may face away from the plant canopy;
f) security services, which may include the physical presence of a security guard; and
g) controlled point of access

Tier 1: 1000 sq ft (125 plants) – Choose one of seven 'Best Management Practices'

- FENCING IS OPTIONAL FOR TIER 1 CULTIVATORS

Tier 2: 2500 sq ft (312 plants) – FENCING plus two 'Best Management Practices'

Tier 3: 5000 sq ft (625 plants) – FENCING plus three 'Best Management Practices'

Tier 4: 10,000 sq ft (1250 plants) – FENCING plus four 'Best Management Practices'

Tier 5: 20,000 sq ft (2500 plants) – FENCING plus five 'Best Management Practices '

Tier 6: 37,500 sq ft (4687 plants) – FENCING plus all remaining 'Best Management Practices'

*** Mixed Tier License holders must follow this for their outdoor component ***

The required number of BMPs for each tier is a minimum to maintain licensure. Any license holder can utilize more than the required amount if they choose.

This document is intended to serve as guidance for the fencing portion of the Outdoor Security Best Management Practices

Definitions

A fence is a barrier, railing, or other upright structure, of wire and/or wood, that encloses your cannabis canopy and inhibits unauthorized entry. It can be permanent or temporary but must be sufficient to hinder unauthorized entry to any cultivation area. Common fences include stock fences, standard or suspension barbed wire, woven wire, cable wire and high-tensile wire. They can be electric, and temporary poly-wire and electric net fences are acceptable.

If you need help in determining whether your fencing option is satisfactory, please contact the CCB Compliance Division at CCB.Compliance@vermont.gov.

Request for Fencing Variance

A license holder can request a variance from the fencing requirement to the CCB and may be granted a variance on a case-by-case basis.

A fencing variance may be granted to those that can exhibit alternatives that are just as sufficient as a fence when combined with other selected Best Management Practices (BMPs).

To request a variance, you must provide a narrative that explains the need for a variance and why it is appropriate. Factors the CCB will consider in determining whether a variance is appropriate are: location, natural barriers, proposed alternative, number of plants, and how the area is zoned. Requester should provide details regarding these factors in the narrative and the best management practice that will be utilized to replace the fencing requirement. A requester still must meet the minimum number of BMPs for a specific tier.

Prior to approval, but after a variance request, a CCB compliance agent will conduct a review of the physical location, utilizing Google Maps/GPS data to ensure the nature of the property is appropriate for a variance. This review will include an onsite inspection.

A licensee need not reapply for a variance with every license renewal. If there are security or theft issues after a variance is granted, the CCB may designate additional or alternative BMPs the licensee must use to maintain licensure and may require the licensee to reapply for a variance with the license renewal.

To request a fencing variance, please submit a rule waiver request and indicate you are asking for a fencing variance.

PLEASE NOTE: *A variance will not be approved if cost is the sole reason provided for the variance request.*