GETTING STARTED
Maryland Industrial Hemp Research Pilot Program

I WANT TO GROW INDUSTRIAL HEMP. WHERE DO I START?

The following information is provided as a guide for how to start growing industrial hemp in Maryland.

1. Determine what type of hemp you want to grow and what fits your farm operation: grain, fiber, floral material for CBD extraction.

2. Partner with an institute of higher education located in Maryland to develop a research project.

3. Develop a plan for the use or destruction of the crop.

4. Select a location where the industrial hemp will be grown. Outdoor production must be 1000 feet from a school or public recreation area.
   • If the site is not owned by the applicant, you must have the land owner’s permission to grow industrial hemp on their property.

5. Apply for a criminal background check.
   • Applicants must not have a felony conviction in the past ten years.
   • Applicants must be at least 18 years old.

6. Apply to the Maryland Department of Agriculture for a site registration.

7. Submit your criminal background check with your site registration application.

8. Develop a plan to comply with Maryland Nutrient Management and Pesticide Regulations.