



## GETTING STARTED

### Maryland's Hemp Farming Program & 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. If you are interested in participating in the Maryland Hemp Research Pilot Program, partner with an institute of higher education located in Maryland or the Maryland Department of Agriculture 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 landowner's permission to grow industrial hemp on their property.
5. Apply for a FBI 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.