

Synthetic Marijuana Product Changes



Did you know that hemp can be intoxicating? Or that synthetic marijuana products, including those sourced from hemp, are now prohibited in the state of Montana per [House Bill \(HB\) 948](#)?

Synthetic marijuana products became illegal on May 22, 2023, when Governor Greg Gianforte signed HB 948 into law. This new law impacts any person or business that manufactures, processes, or offers a synthetic marijuana product for sale to consumers.

What is a Synthetic Marijuana Product?

A synthetic marijuana product is any product that contains synthetic cannabinoids. Synthetic cannabinoids are cannabinoids, intoxicating or non-intoxicating, produced through a chemical synthesis in a laboratory setting or with biological agents such as genetically modified yeasts or algae. There is little research available concerning the adverse human health effects of these products.

How is hemp used to manufacture synthetic marijuana products?

Hemp biomass containing high levels of naturally occurring CBD is extracted and concentrated into legal, non-intoxicating CBD isolate. This CBD isolate is then mixed with hazardous chemicals in an unregulated setting to convert the CBD into nearly any synthetic cannabinoid, intoxicating or otherwise. This process also creates unintended byproducts which have not been studied for human health effects.

<u>Synthetic Cannabinoids</u>	<u>Naturally Occurring Cannabinoids</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Made in an unregulated setting• Lack of testing requirements• No packaging and labeling standards• Lack of age restrictions• Contains unintended byproducts• Prohibited in Montana	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Produced naturally in the plant• Regulated testing requirements• Regulated packaging and labeling requirements• Regulated age restrictions• No unintended byproducts• Legal in Montana

How can I identify synthetic marijuana products?

- Look for products that contain or advertise common synthetic cannabinoids (e.g. delta-8-THC, delta-10-THC, THC-O-acetates, THCV, THCP, HHC, HHC-O-acetate, HHCP, and CBN.)
- Products that produce a feeling of being “high” or promote intoxication that are sold in locations other than licensed dispensaries.
- Ask for test results to confirm the absence of synthetic cannabinoids. If test results can’t be produced, consumers should avoid these products.

Questions: Please contact the Cannabis Control Division at DORCCD@mt.gov.

NO BUSINESS OR PERSON MAY LEGALLY SELL SYNTHETIC MARIJUANA.