



# COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CANNABIS COMMISSION

## CNMI CANNABIS COMMISSION HOMEGROWN REGISTRY FAQ SHEET

*The passage of Public Law 20-66, the “Taulamwaar Sensible CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018”, as amended by Public Law 21-5, allowed for the personal and medicinal use of marijuana in the CNMI. The Act created the CNMI Cannabis Commission (Commission) to establish a Homegrown marijuana registry for persons who are 21 years of age or older or medical marijuana patients that are authorized to produce, process, keep or store homegrown marijuana at their household or cultivation site. As the Commission develops regulations for the Homegrown marijuana registry, a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s) was created to assist potential marijuana homegrowers understand what the allowances, limitations and requirements are under the Law. The following FAQ’s are not intended to supersede the “Taulamwaar Sensible CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018” and should there be any discrepancy, the language in the statute prevails.*

### **Q: What is marijuana?**

*A: Marijuana means all parts of the plant genus cannabis, seeds thereof, and every compound, manufacture, salt derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant and its seeds whether growing or not, regardless of moisture content, other than marijuana extracts*

### **Q: What is Homegrown Marijuana Registry?**

*A: A record maintained by the CNMI Cannabis Commission of the names and addresses of persons who are 21 years of age or older, or medical marijuana patients authorized to produce, process, keep, or store homegrown marijuana at a household or a cultivation site for non-commercial purposes.*

*“Household” means a housing unit, and includes any place in or around the housing unit at which the occupants of the housing unit are producing, processing, keeping, or storing marijuana, marijuana products, or marijuana extracts, whether homemade or purchased.*

*“Housing unit” means a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied as separate living quarters, in which the occupants live and eat separately from any other persons in the building and which have direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hall.*

*“Cultivation site” means a site in which marijuana is produced other than a household for non-commercial purposes, including but not limited to: a farm, ranch, land parcel, lot, greenhouse, warehouse, building, room or container.*



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**Q: How do I apply for a Homegrown Marijuana Registry Card and how much does it cost?**

*A: The application will be available upon the launching of the [www.cnmicannabis.org](http://www.cnmicannabis.org) official website. If approved, the fee is an annual payment of \$75 per approved registrant.*

**Q: Who is eligible to register for a Homegrown Marijuana Registry Card?**

*A: Any individual 21 years or older may apply to produce, process, keep, or store marijuana at their household or cultivation site for non-commercial purposes. Those who apply must meet qualifications in order to be issued a Homegrown Marijuana Registry Card by the CNMI Cannabis Commission.*

**Q: How long is my Homegrown Marijuana Registry Card good for?**

*A: One year. Annual renewal of your Homegrown Marijuana Registry Card is required in order to continue to produce, process, keep, or store homegrown marijuana at a household or a cultivation site for non-commercial purposes.*

**Q: Who will enforce the Homegrown Marijuana Registry?**

*A: The CNMI Cannabis Commission.*

**Q: How many marijuana plants can I grow at a time?**

*A: The total amount of marijuana plants at the household or cultivation site should not exceed six (6) mature plants (with observable flowers or buds) and no more than twelve (12) immature plants (no observable flowers or buds) at any time. Notwithstanding the fact that newly formed young, immature flowers or buds are not, for the most part, considered matured flowers or buds, for purposes of compliance with Public Law 20-66 as amended by Public Law 21-5, any observable flowers or buds shall be considered a mature or adult cannabis plant.*

**Q: Are there any restrictions or requirements for homegrown cultivation?**

*A:*

- 1. Marijuana plants shall be cultivated in a location where the plants are not subject to public view without the use of binoculars, aircraft, or other optical aids.*
- 2. A person cultivating marijuana must take reasonable precautions to ensure the plants are secure from unauthorized access and access by persons under 21 years of age.*
- 3. Marijuana cultivation may only occur on property lawfully in possession, either by appropriate lease or actual ownership of the cultivator or with the consent of the person in lawful possession of the property.*
- 4. A person may not sell homegrown marijuana or plants, marijuana products or marijuana items.*
- 5. A person may give marijuana, or up to six (6) immature plants, marijuana products or marijuana items to another person (21 years and older) as a gift provided the person being given accepts the gift.*



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### **Q: How will minors be protected from marijuana and marijuana products?**

*A: It is the responsibility of the homegrown marijuana registrant (cardholder) to ensure that persons under the age of 21 are not allowed access to marijuana plants or items. A person who violates this section is punishable by a civil infraction punishable by a fine of \$100 for a first offense. The second offense will result in the confiscation of their marijuana and a fine of \$500. If a person is found guilty of their third offense, their marijuana will be confiscated and the person will be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000 and 30 days in prison, along with the revocation of their Homegrown Registry Card.*

### **Q: Can a landlord prohibit their tenant from growing marijuana in their rental?**

*A: Yes. Landlords have the right to prohibit growing marijuana in their rental.*

### **Q: How much marijuana can I legally possess (carry) at one time?**

*A:*

- 1. Not more than one (1) ounce of useable marijuana on your persons in public but out of public view (except marijuana-free zones §53054 (c))*
- 2. Not more than Eight (8) ounces of useable marijuana in your home.*
- 3. Not more than 16 ounces of any marijuana product in solid form.*
- 4. Not more than 72 ounces of marijuana products in liquid form.*
- 5. Not more than 5 grams of marijuana extracts at any given time.*
- 6. Not more than 6 Immature plants.*

*“Useable” marijuana includes pre-rolled marijuana as long as the pre-roll consists of only dried marijuana leaves and flowers.*

*The following locations are considered “Marijuana-free Zones”:*

- 1. Any government building with exceptions for government entities acting to carry out its duties under the law.*
- 2. Any school or school property, whether public or private.*
- 3. Northern Marianas College with exceptions for research as may be permitted by NMC.*
- 4. Any business establishment licensed to serve alcohol.*
- 5. Any federal building.*

### **Q: Can I travel off-island with my homegrown marijuana?**

*A: Commonwealth and Federal law prohibits the importation or exportation of any federal restricted substance.*

### **Q: Can I sell my homegrown marijuana or purchase someone else’s homegrown marijuana?**

*A: No. Homegrown marijuana is for personal use and is non-commercial.*



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**Q: Are there any restrictions for using or possessing marijuana in public?**

*A: It is unlawful for any person to engage in the use of marijuana items in a public place or public property or in the presence of a person under 21 years of age. You cannot use, display or exhibit marijuana items in a public place or public property, near schools (public or private), any government buildings, any federal building or property, or any business establishment licensed to serve alcohol.*

**Q: What is considered a “public” place?**

*A: A public place or public property means a place to which the general public has access and includes, but is not limited to, beaches, hallways, lobbies and other parts of apartment houses and hotels not constituting rooms or apartments designed for actual residence, and highways, streets, schools, places of amusement, parks, playgrounds and premises used in connection with public transportation or any property owned by the CNMI or Department of Public Lands.*

**Q: Can I get a DUI under the influence of marijuana?**

*Yes, in addition to existing CNMI DUI laws, consuming or use of marijuana while operating motorized vehicles on public roads is illegal, punishable by fines up to \$500 and/or suspension of their driver’s license up to 6 months for the first offense. A second or subsequent offense is punishable by fines up to \$1,000, suspension of their driver’s license up to 1 year or both. Marijuana impairs the ability to drive by affecting your coordination, attention, judgement, reaction time and decision-making skills.*

**Q: What if an employer requires drug testing?**

*A: Employers in the private sector, the Commonwealth and municipal governments retain the right to maintain and establish their respective workplace policies as it relates to marijuana which may include drug testing. While marijuana use is permissible in certain circumstances under CNMI law, employers maintain the right to uphold their own employment policies as it relates to marijuana use.*

**Q: What if I have questions regarding Homegrown Marijuana Registry?**

*A: You can email [info@cnmicannabis.org](mailto:info@cnmicannabis.org).*