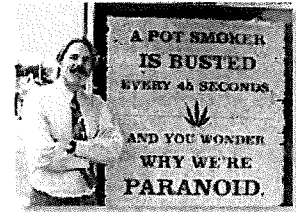




Dedicated to
Reforming
California's
Marijuana Laws



Home

Join California NORML and help us continue our work



Read about CalNORML's mission, accomplishments and goals

Advertise On Our Website

Add our Link to Your Site

Support the Businesses that Support Reform!

Get Involved!

Search

Search

Navigation

- Frequently Asked Questions
- Preguntas Frecuentes
- Benefits of Legalization
- ▼ Medical Marijuana
 - Collectives/Coops Dispensaries and Delivery Services
 - Find a Doctor
 - ▼ Starting Collectives
 - List Your Collective
 - CBD Information and Sources
 - ▼ Patient's Law Guide
 - Local Growing Guidelines
 - Businesses and Organizations
 - Patient Population Estimate
- ▼ Legal Information
 - Find a Lawyer
 - CA Marijuana Laws
 - Find Your Legislator
 - Legislative News
- ▼ Health Info
 - Vaporizers
 - ▶ Drug Testing
 - Laboratories - Ring Test Results

Local Medical Marijuana Cultivation & Possession Guidelines in California



CLARK NEUBERT



CA's Premier Cannabis Business Attorneys

Nor Cal (415) 779-0977
So Cal (818) 784-2700
greenfrontier.com

Recommend 370 people recommend this. Sign Up to see what your friends recommend.

Tweet 12

UPDATED 8/9/2015

DISCLAIMER: Nothing on Cal NORML's site should be substituted for bone fide legal advice. [See a list of attorneys.](#)



Explanation of SB420 Cultivation Guidelines

On November 26, 2013, the Third District Court of Appeals upheld the city of Live Oak's ban on medical marijuana cultivation. California NORML supported a court challenge to the Live Oak ruling, but the California Supreme Court refused to hear the challenge.

Cities and counties across the state have moved to establish zoning regulations for medical cannabis cultivation. In many cases, these are driven by complaints from neighbors who don't like the sight or smell of marijuana, or by public officials with overly punitive attitudes. Public safety concerns have been raised, and there have been a few incidents of violence around marijuana gardens. While there may be a need in some cities to require greenhouses or other security measures for gardens, in rural areas and in whole counties, there is no justification for outlawing outdoor marijuana gardens. In any case, hardship exemptions for indigent patients must be included to assure safe access under state law. Any patient who is impacted by planned or existing local ordinances can write to CalNORML.

Other local laws for cultivation and aggregate grows for multiple patients may be found in

Localities NOT listed below adhere to state law; Cal NORML recommends following SB 420's state default guidelines, which are: 6 mature OR 12 immature plants per patient in places without a local ordinance.

- [Amador](#)
- [Anderson](#)
- [Avenal](#)
- [Arcata](#)
- [Banning](#)
- [Beaumont](#)
- [Berkeley](#)
- [Biggs](#)
- [Butte County](#)
- [Calaveras County](#)
- [California City](#)
- [Capitola](#)
- [Chico](#)
- [Chowchilla](#)
- [Citrus Heights](#)
- [Clearlake](#)
- [Cloverdale](#)
- [Clovis](#)
- [Colton](#)
- [City of Colusa](#)
- [Concord](#)
- [Corcoran](#)
- [Corning](#)
- [Desert Hot Springs](#)
- [Dunsmuir](#)
- [El Dorado](#)

- Student/Youth Usage Studies
- MJ and Driving
- Pain Patients
- ▼ Costs of Prohibition
 - Economic Benefits of Legalization
 - CA Prisoner/Arrest Data
 - Federal Medical Marijuana Cases
 - CAMP data
- Historical Info
- ▼ About Us
 - California Chapters
 - CaNORML Store
 - Our Staff
 - Join Our Mailing Lists
 - eMail Us

Local California Dispensary Regulations.

Several cities and counties, e.g. Benicia, disallow collective grows for more than two or three patients. To find your city or county's code, Google the name + "code," then search for "marijuana" or "Cannabis".

Also see [California Association of Counties ordinance page.](#)

NOTE: On May 22, 2008, the Second District of California Court of Appeals ruled that the state limits on medical marijuana possession and cultivation established under SB 420 are unconstitutional. The court's reasoning would seem to apply only when the SB 420 numbers are used to limit patients' rights, but has been interpreted otherwise by police who would prefer to ignore them. On January 21, 2010, the California Supreme Court in essence affirmed the ruling.

California NORML strongly advises Prop 215 patients to continue following the SB 420 guidelines – six mature or 12 immature plants and 8 ounces of processed marijuana except where local guidelines specify more. The Supreme Court's recent Kelly decision has been widely misinterpreted to imply that the limits no longer apply, and that patients can therefore grow as much as they want. In fact, the Court's decision lets the police arrest anyone who exceeds the guidelines. The only thing it disallows is for the guidelines to be used as a basis for conviction in criminal trials.

So, unless you don't mind being arrested and dragged into court for a felony trial, where you will have to show that the amount of marijuana you had was consistent with your medical needs, the best rule of thumb is to follow the guidelines. The Kelly decision simply re-affirms the original intent of SB 420, which was to establish reasonable guidelines for arrest - not automatic limits for guilt.

Some doctors are charging clients extra for so-called "cultivation licenses" supposedly entitling them to grow more than the normal number of plants. There is no such thing as a "cultivation license" under California law. Any patient with a California physician's recommendation may legally cultivate or possess as much marijuana as they need for their own personal medical use, and no more. No physician can authorize them to cultivate more (they can only testify in court that a certain amount of marijuana is consistent with the individual patient's needs, and they do not have professional competence to prescribe plant numbers).

At right is the latest information CaNORML has about local guidelines; check with your local government entities for updates (and please [let us know](#) if this page needs to be updated). Localities NOT listed at right adhere to state law; Cal NORML recommends adhering to [state default guidelines](#) of 6 mature OR 12 immature plants and 8 oz. of dried processed marijuana. County ordinances have jurisdiction over unincorporated areas of their counties; cities with their own city councils have their own rules.

Also see: [Attorney Omar Figueroa's local guidelines page](#)

[Back In the Closet: California medical cannabis patients are increasingly being forced to hide behind closed doors as bans on dispensaries and home cultivation sweep through the East Bay. East Bay Express April 30, 2014](#)

- [Elk Grove](#)
- [Eureka](#)
- [Farmersville](#)
- [Ft. Bragg](#)
- [Fremont](#)
- [Fresno city](#)
- [Fresno county](#)
- [Galt](#)
- [Glenn county](#)
- [Gridley](#)
- [Gustine](#)
- [Hanford](#)
- [Healdsburg](#)
- [Hesperia](#)
- [Humboldt](#)
- [Imperial Beach](#)
- [Ione](#)
- [Irwindale](#)
- [Kern County](#)
- [Kings County](#)
- [Lake County](#)
- [Lakeport](#)
- [Lassen](#)
- [Lincoln](#)
- [Live Oak](#)
- [Lodi](#)
- [City of Los Angeles](#)
- [Madera](#)
- [Manteca](#)
- [Mariposa County](#)
- [Martinez](#)
- [Mendocino](#)
- [Merced](#)
- [Modesto](#)
- [Modoc](#)
- [Moraga](#)
- [Nevada County](#)
- [Oakland](#)
- [Orland](#)
- [Paradise](#)
- [Pittsburg](#)
- [Placer County](#)
- [Porterville](#)
- [Redding](#)
- [Rancho Cordova](#)
- [Ripon](#)
- [Riverside County](#)
- [Rocklin](#)
- [Roseville](#)
- [City of Sacramento](#)
- [Sacramento County](#)
- [San Bernardino](#)
- [City of San Carlos](#)
- [City of San Diego](#)
- [San Francisco](#)
- [San Joaquin](#)
- [City of San Luis Obispo](#)
- [City of San Mateo](#)
- [San Mateo County](#)
- [San Pablo](#)

On May 15, 2015, facing both a Cal NORML-supported lawsuit and a voter referendum, Clearlake city council voted 5-0 to repeal their [medical marijuana cultivation ban](#). On June 12, the city voted in a new ordinance allowing 6-48 outdoor plants, depending on the size of the parcel.

The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board has issued [an order for cannabis cultivation and similar activities](#) along with [Best Management Practices](#).

The Central Valley Water Board is also working on a pilot program, aiming to finalize on October 1. They are holding hearings across the state and will start taking formal comments on September 7. [Read more.](#)

[Marijuana pesticide guidelines issued by State of California](#) April 8, 2015

[State Water Resources Control Board Cannabis Enforcement Unit page](#)

[City of Santa Cruz](#)
[Santa Cruz County](#)
[Selma](#)
[Shasta County](#)
[Shasta Lake](#)
[Siskiyou](#)
[Sonoma](#)
[St. Helena](#)
[Susanville](#)
[Sutter](#)
[South Lake Tahoe](#)
[Tehama](#)
[Tracy](#)
[Trinity](#)
[Tulare](#)
[Tuolumne](#)
[Visalia](#)
[Weed](#)
[West Sacramento](#)
[Willits](#)
[Winters](#)
[Woodland](#)
[Yolo County](#)
[Yuba County](#)
[City of Yuba](#)

Amador

On 11/28/11, Amador county supervisors approved a 45-day ban on outdoor cultivation of medical marijuana and directed staff to come up with regulations to address impacts of outdoor grows. On 3/14/2012, Amador lifted its ban on outdoor cultivation, allowing as many as 12 plants per patient for as many as two patients for a maximum of 24 plants. An ordinance allowing those amounts was adopted on 3/27/2012 and is now [Amador County Code 19.86](#). [Read more.](#)

Anderson

On February 18, 2011, an ordinance took effect as [muni code 17.65](#) in Anderson that prohibits cultivation either inside a dwelling or in an outdoor garden, limits the growing, harvesting and processing of medical marijuana to a 50-square-foot outbuilding that is built to city, state and federal codes, is protected by an audible alarm system, and contains electrical, plumbing and ventilation. A suit was filed against the Anderson ordinance on April 15, 2011, but was unsuccessful, so the ordinance stands.

Avenal

The Avenal Planning Commission passed an ordinance banning medical marijuana cultivation and distribution in the City of Avenal on March 3, 2014. The Avenal City Council held a public hearing on the ordinance on March 13, and passed it on first reading. [Read an oped from Cal NORML on the ban.](#)

Arcata

City Council passed [an ordinance](#) 11/08 allowing no more than 50 square feet for cultivation. In addition, dispensaries will be prohibited from using more than 25% of their property for cultivation and patients must grow in their own homes, which must be mainly residential space. Those with special needs may request more grow space.

In 2012, Arcata voters enacted a 45 percent tax on residences that use more than 600 percent of the energy baseline, with the aim of driving indoor grows out of the town. [Read more.](#)

Banning

[Banning city code 8.48.330](#) says:

"Any real or personal property utilized in the manufacture, cultivation, sales, or storage of any drug which is illegal under any state or federal law, including marijuana, is declared a nuisance."

Since medical marijuana is illegal under federal law, it is not permitted to grow it there.

Beaumont

On February 18, 2014 Beaumont city council voted to enact a total ban on medical marijuana cultivation. [Read more.](#)

Berkeley

[Measure JJ](#), passed by the voters in 2008, repealed Berkeley's plant and possession limits. Outdoor gardens that are observable are limited to 10 plants.

Biggs

[City code](#) requires marijuana be grown in a "fully enclosed and secure structure."

Butte County

Butte County citizens have filed a lawsuit seeking to block Butte's ordinance. [Read more.](#)

The county filed a demur to the original complaint, and [it was granted by Judge Stephen Benson](#) on May 14, effectively dismissing the case. The matter will be appealed to the Third District Court of Appeals.

Meanwhile, Butte county officials are out with their ["Stay in the Box"](#) campaign.

On November 4, 2014 Butte County voters passed Measure A and rejected Measure B. [Measure A's more restrictive cultivation ordinance](#) will go into effect on January 8. [Read more.](#)

On December 9, 2014, the Butte BOS voted to approve \$450,000 to enforce the new rules, educate the public about them, and make it easier to make complaints. The ["Stay in the Box"](#) campaign will educate about the ridiculous rule to keep plants inside a contiguous space, rather than using the scientific [plant canopy](#) to determine yield. Cal NORML objects to this requirement, and notes that during the campaign the "box" was not an issue, but rather it was drummed out repeatedly that while Measure B would not allow further changes by the Supervisors, Measure A would. Getting rid of "the box" should be their first change. [Read the ordinance.](#) [Read CalNORML's letter to the supervisors about "the box."](#)

The allocation isn't final until the board takes a second vote. People can contact their supervisors and the sheriff at 530-538-6000.

Calaveras County

The Calaveras County Board of Supervisors held a [study session](#) on April 14, 2015 on the question of regulating medical marijuana gardens. The study session is just the first of a number of public meetings at which officials expect to discuss the issue before adopting a zoning ordinance that will regulate the gardens. [Read more.](#) The board decided not to take any action, pending further regulation by the state. [Read more.](#) Cal NORML recommends in places without local ordinances that patients stick to the state guidelines of 6 mature or 12 immature plants.

California City

California City (Kern County) voted to enact [a ban on dispensaries and cultivation](#) on April 1, 2014. [Read more.](#)

Capitola

On January 9, 2014, the city of Capitola will consider [an urgency ordinance](#) to disallow commercial cultivation of medical cannabis, allowing only 50-square foot indoor gardens in residential zones. Violators would face misdemeanor charges with 6 mos. in jail, and fines of \$1000 per day. [See agenda.](#)

Chico

Chapter 19.77 of [Chico municipal code](#) allows outdoor, residential cultivation of 50 square feet per parcel, regardless of the number of patients. Plants must be enclosed, screened, and 5 feet from the property line. Indoor cultivation (under 50 square feet and 1200 watts) can take place only with a permit stating outdoor is not possible and the building owner approves. States all marijuana grown must be for personal use only.

Chowchilla

[Chowchilla Municipal Code 9.09.040](#) requires medical marijuana to be grown in an inspected "secure enclosed structure" with solid walls and roof, and not encompassing living space. The total area dedicated to cultivation of medical marijuana is be limited to a total of 120 square feet per parcel. Cultivation may only be conducted by the property owner of the subject property or a resident of the subject property with written permission of the property owner of the subject property to conduct cultivation. (Ord. No. 463-12, 8-14-2012)

Citrus Heights

In 2013, Citrus Heights passed [an ordinance](#) requiring medical marijuana to be grown inside the home (50 sq. ft. limit) or in an enclosed structure (100 sq. ft. limit).

Clearlake

On June 12, 2015, Clearlake city council gave final approval to a new cultivation ordinance, to take effect in 30 days. It allows for 6-48 outdoor plants, depending on the size of the parcel. [Read more.](#)

Cloverdale

[Cloverdale municipal code](#) makes outdoor cannabis cultivation a nuisance, "enforced by any applicable laws or ordinances, including, but not limited to, Chapter 8.02" meaning an infraction with a fine of up to \$500.

Clovis

The Clovis City Council voted on October 8, 2012 to [approve stricter rules for its 6-year-old medical marijuana ordinance](#), giving police the authority to direct valid medical marijuana

users to grow the crop inside their home where it can't be seen or inside a locked structure on their property. Gardens are limited to 32 square feet. Clovis already bans outdoor marijuana gardens, dispensaries and patient-to-patient sales.

Colton

In 2013, the city of Colton defined medical marijuana dispensaries as including cultivation for two or more patients, and outlawed dispensaries and delivery services.

Colusa

The city of Colusa voted on March 18, 2014 to draft an ordinance banning all marijuana cultivation. The mayor has called for public comment on the matter. [Read more.](#)

Concord

[Concord began looking at cultivation restrictions](#) after a neighbor complaint about a medical marijuana grow. On December 11, 2012 Concord city council moved forward on [an ordinance banning outdoor cultivation.](#)

On March 26, 2013, [Concord city council voted unanimously to adopt a ban on outdoor cultivation](#), not even allowing it in ancillary buildings, after winning assurances from the chief of police and city attorney that code enforcement would be complaint-driven. At the ordinance's second reading, zoning variances were discussed. Anyone interested in applying for a variance or who is impacted by Concord's ordinance can [write here.](#)

Corcoran

Corcoran is meeting about a growing ban on September 15, 2014. [Read more.](#)

Corning

The city of Corning prohibits cultivation outdoors or in a residential structure. Gardens must be located in a secure detached structure in the rear yard only, removed ten feet from the property line and with a six foot solid fence and with a mechanical ventilation system and security system approved by a Building Official or the Police Dept.

Desert Hot Springs

On November 4, 2014 the voters of Desert Hot Springs enacted Measure HH, establishing a tax of \$25/square foot for marijuana gardens under 3000 sq. ft., and \$10/square foot for larger gardens. [Read more.](#)

Dunsmuir

On March 6, 2014 the city of Dunsmuir repealed Chapter 17.34 of their city code regarding marijuana cultivation. The city now follows state law (see above).

El Dorado County

On September 24, 2013, El Dorado enacted [a new cultivation ordinance.](#)

Property of an acre, or less, is allowed 200 square feet of cultivation area. Five acres or more may use 400 square feet while 20 acres or more can have a maximum of 600 square feet under cultivation. Setbacks were established at 50 feet on the smaller plots and 100 feet on the 400 and 600 square foot units. Not more than three qualified individuals may participate per parcel under the ordinance.

Supervisors restricted the location of gardens to not less than 1,000 feet from a school, school bus stop, church or other "youth-oriented" facility. The property must be fenced and secured and the garden must be otherwise screened from view by additional fencing, plants or trees, buildings or other structures.

Elk Grove

On January 22, 2014, Elk Grove staff [asked for direction from the city council](#) on their medical marijuana cultivation ordinance, in light of [the Maral decision](#) allowing total cultivation bans. The City Council directed the preparation of an ordinance prohibiting medical marijuana cultivation in the City. The video of the Council Meeting is available at [www.elkgrovecity.org.](#)

On February 8, 2012, the city council of Elk Grove voted to disallow medical marijuana cultivation outdoors or in a greenhouse, allowing it only inside a home or in a detached building outside. In the detached building, the grow area could be no more than 120 square feet. A 6-foot backyard fence must surround the site. Inside a home, medical marijuana can be grown in a 50-square-foot area, excluding the bathroom, kitchen or bedroom. Grow lights cannot exceed 1,200 watts; and use of gas products is prohibited.

Cultivation is barred within 1,000 feet of any school, child care center or public park, and the growing area may not be accessible to anyone 17 or younger. A ventilation and filtration system approved by the city's building official must be installed. A security system is required and also must be approved by the building official or police chief. A cultivation permit is required, good for two years, and the application for that must include the notarized signature of the property owner.

Eureka

On May 3, 2011, Eureka city council approved [an ordinance](#) that allows personal cultivation within 50 square feet in area and 10 feet in height, or up to 100 feet with an Exemption Request, only in a residence. Processing area cannot exceed 20 square feet. Also regulates dispensaries, delivery services, and labs.

Farmersville

Farmersville is rumored to have a ban on medical marijuana cultivation; their ordinance and an information packet can be picked up at City Hall, 909 W. Visalia Rd.

Ft. Bragg

Cultivation Ordinance says:

- Medical marijuana cannot be grown in a rental unit unless the tenant has the property owner's written permission.
- There must be no evidence of marijuana cultivation visible from the street.
- No more than 50 square feet of floor area may be used for cultivation.
- Cultivation is not permitted in the kitchen, bathroom, or primary bedrooms of a residence.
- Grow-lights cannot exceed 1,200 watts total and all electrical wiring must be installed and permitted in accordance with applicable Building Codes.

Fremont

In February 2014, Fremont banned outdoor cultivation, meaning anything not grown in a fully enclosed and secure structure. Indoor cultivation is banned if visible from the street, etc. No criminal charges are to be made, but fines of up to \$1000 are possible. See section 19.190.095 of Fremont city code.

Fresno city

On April 2, 2015 Fresno city council voted on an ordinance to allow limited four-plant indoor grows, keeping in place the heavy fines they imposed last year. Read more. Faced with opposition from Prop. 215 patients, the Fresno City Council voted down the ordinance at its April 9 meeting. Read more.

Fresno City Council voted to enact a total ban on marijuana grows on March 20, 2014. Read more. Also see: Fresno council committee formed to review marijuana growing Read more.

A lawsuit challenging the City of Fresno's 2011 temporary ban on the outdoor cultivation of medical cannabis was filed April 23, 2012. The second amended petition and complaint against Fresno's outdoor growing ban was filed April 15, 2013, in Fresno County Superior Court. No trial date has been set. Read more.

The city's ban is also included in ACLU's suit against Fresno county (see below).

Fresno county

This page explains how to file an appeal for cannabis cultivation fines issued by Fresno County.

Fresno city and county's ban has been challenged by the ACLU. On October 2, 2014 the suit was dismissed. ACLU has 60 days to decide whether to take further action.

May 8, 2014 - Advocates challenge Fresno cannabis cultivation ban.

May 2, 2014 - Judge Puts Fresno County medical marijuana fines on hold

On January 7, 2014, Fresno County voted to ban all medical marijuana cultivation in unincorporated areas of Fresno county. Violations are misdemeanor crimes, with daily fines, after an abatement order is sent to the property owner with a 15 day notice, or an "immediate threat" is determined. Read the ordinance.

The city of Fresno has now also passed a cultivation ban (see above). The ordinance in the Clovis allowing indoor grows remain in effect.

For questions about Fresno's laws call 559-270-1411.

Galt

In January 2015, the Galt planning commission banned all medical marijuana cultivation, indoors and out. Read more.

Glenn county

Glenn County supervisors passed Title 15, Section 797: guidelines for medical cultivation in the unincorporated areas, on February 21, 2012. It allows plants to be grown outdoors in a 100-square-foot area provided it is fenced and not visible to neighbors. Three-hundred foot and 1,000-foot setbacks from churches, schools and parks are required by the county depending on the size of the parcel. Personal gardens for medical marijuana patients are confined to property owned by the patient — not rentals.

Gridley

The city of Gridley has banned outdoor cultivation. In April 2014, Gridley held a study session on its marijuana cultivation laws, and is considering new regulations. Read more.

Gustine

In November 2012, Gustine passed an ordinance requiring growing inside a secure structure, up to 120 square feet per parcel. Smoking in public places is also disallowed.

Hanford

On August 29, 2014 the Hanford City Council took the first steps toward possibly banning the cultivation of marijuana in the city limits. HANFORD TO CONSIDER BAN ON MARIJUANA CULTIVATION

Healdsburg

On May 5, 2014 the City Council voted in favor of an ordinance to limit outdoor cultivation to 3 plants, and indoor to 6 plants. [Read more.](#)
[Healdsburg city council considered banning outdoor cultivation](#) at a June 3, 2013 meeting, but instead [convened a task force](#) on the matter. [Read more.](#)

Hesperia

On April 7, 2015 Hesperia city council discussed an ordinance that would prohibit the commercial cultivation of marijuana within certain areas of the city, specifically within nonresidential land-use designations or zones.

Humboldt Co.

In October 2014, Humboldt County Board of Supervisors passed an nuisance ordinance for parcels under 5 acres. The land use ordinance limits qualified growers with Proposition 215 recommendations to 100 square feet of cannabis canopy on land parcels an acre in size or less and up to 200 square feet of cannabis canopy on property over an acre to 5 acres in size. [Read more.](#)

A group called [California Cannabis Voice Humboldt](#) is proposing an ordinance for parcels over 5 acres.

On 12/14/2011, the Humboldt county passed [an ordinance](#) limiting indoor gardens to 50 square feet per parcel, and 1200 watts, regardless of the number of patients.

Both indoors and out, patients in Humboldt county residents [are currently permitted 3 pounds.](#)

The City of Fortuna enforces SB 420 limits (6 mature/12 immature plants, 1/2 lb) indoors and out. Also see: [Eureka](#) and [Arcata](#) (above).

Imperial Beach

On July 7, 2011, with a 4 to 1 vote, the Imperial Beach City Council approved an ordinance banning collective cultivation of medical marijuana within city limits including in the private homes of qualified patients. [Read more.](#)

Ione

Ione defines a medical marijuana dispensary as one that cultivates for others, and zones them out.

Irwindale

On May 13, 2015, city officials [will consider placing a 45-day moratorium](#) on the commercial and industrial cultivation, processing and distribution of medical marijuana, according to a staff report. [Read more.](#)

Kern County

[An emergency ordinance disallowing more than 12 plants per parcel](#) is in effect in Kern. Growing more than 12 plants per parcel in Kern county will be treated as a misdemeanor violation, with a possible 6 mos. or \$1000 fine per plant, in addition to nuisance abatement costs.

Kings County

A ban on outdoor medical marijuana grows was enacted by Kings county in November 2011. It states, "Cultivation of medical marijuana is prohibited in all zones of the county, except for cultivation for personal medicinal use by a qualified patient within a secured, locked and fully enclosed structure on their personal residence." [Read King County's medical marijuana ordinance.](#) (Search for "marijuana"; it's Article V.)

Lake County

On June 3, 2014, the voters of Lake County voted yes on Measure N by a 51.6-48.4% margin. This means Lake's [ordinance #2997, passed in December 2013](#), took effect on [July 11](#). Under the ordinance, outdoor cultivation is banned on parcels less than one acre in size and in all community growth boundaries, maps of which can be found [here](#). Plant numbers on parcels larger than one acre outside of community growth boundaries are limited to six mature or 12 immature plants. The only exception is property 20 acres or more in size that is zoned for strictly for agriculture, on which collective gardens of up to 48 mature plants can be grown. Indoors throughout the county, a 100-square-foot area limited to 1200 watts can be grown subject to inspection by the Building and Safety Department and the sheriff. [Read more.](#)

Measure O, the [Medical Marijuana Control Act](#) failed to pass on the November 2014 ballot, as did Measure P, the Freedom to Grow and Use Natural Plants.

Lakeport

On 5/21/2013, [Lakeport city council passed a ban on outdoor cultivation](#), or cultivation in a residence, only 80 square feet of canopy in a secure, detached backyard building. It is "primarily" complaint driven. [Read more.](#) Also see: [City of Lakeport begins community outreach on new marijuana cultivation ordinance](#)

Lassen County

On April 22, 2015 Lassen County adopted [an urgency ordinance \(Title 19 of municipal code\)](#) allowing no more than 12 plants on parcels one acre or smaller, only 6 of them outdoors. Plant numbers scale up from there to parcels 41 acres or larger, where no more than 72

plants can be grown. Setbacks from other properties and schools, etc. are included. Civil penalties of \$1000 per day may be levied for violations after notice is served.

Lincoln

The city of Lincoln passed a cultivation ban in October 2014, codified as section 18.34.210 of their [municipal code](#). [See hearing and vote](#).

Live Oak (Sutter County)

[A lawsuit was filed](#) against Live Oak's ban on indoor and outdoor cultivation of medical marijuana, passed in December 2011. The Third District Court of Appeals [upheld the city of Live Oak's ban](#) on medical marijuana cultivation on November 26, 2013. [California NORML supported a court challenge to the Live Oak ruling](#), but [the California Supreme Court refused to hear the challenge](#).

Lodi

Lodi City Council [has extended its moratorium on medical marijuana cultivation](#) through Nov. 5, 2014 (the last date it can do so). On October 15, 2014 the council adopted an ordinance prohibiting the outdoor cultivation of marijuana, and limited indoor cultivation to the residence or garage of qualified patients or caregivers. [Read more](#).

City of Los Angeles

On May 22, 2013 the voters of LA approved [Proposition D](#), which allows three-patient collective grows by patients or designated primary caregivers. No plant limits are stated; using the state guidelines, 18 mature plants for a three-patient garden would be permitted.

Madera Co.

Sept. 2014 - The sheriff has promised swift enforcement of a new ordinance that levies fines of \$250 per plant and gives patients only one day to comply. [Read more](#).

Manteca

[Manteca Health and Safety Code 8.35](#) requires medical marijuana to be grown in a "secure enclosed structure." No collective cultivation of over twelve plants is permitted in residential districts, and a cooperative or collective must file articles of incorporation with the state and "conduct its business for the mutual benefit of its members."

Mariposa

Update August 2014 - Mariposa's fines have reportedly been reduced to \$250.

April 2014 - Mariposa County supervisors enacted an ordinance that limits each parcel to 12 plants and prohibit any outdoor grows within 1,000 feet of schools, bus stops, churches, parks, or youth oriented facilities. Violators face fines of one thousand dollars per day and up to six months in jail. [Read more](#).

Martinez

On Wednesday, April 16, Martinez city council voted to ban outdoor growing. [Read Cal NORML's report](#).

[See agenda item with ordinance and read more](#).

On March 25, 2014, Martinez city council voted to amend their marijuana ordinance, limiting individuals to growing six plants for personal medical use. [Read more](#). On April 3, 2014, Martinez city council took no action on an ordinance to limit outdoor gardens to six plants, instead directing staff to write a total outdoor ban.

October 2013 - [Martinez public safety subcommittee may tackle medical marijuana cultivation issue](#)

Mendocino Co.

In January 2012, Mendocino rescinded its ordinance allowing for regulated 99-plant gardens. The maximum allowable indoor or outdoor garden in Mendocino county is now 25 plants per parcel; indoors, plants are also limited to 100 contiguous square feet. The sheriff's office still offers voluntary zip-tie permits for about \$25 apiece. [See the ordinance](#).

Merced

Merced county supervisors voted unanimously on September 10, 2013 to approve [an ordinance](#) that would limit medical marijuana cultivation to 12 plants per parcel of land, indoors or out. Violators will receive a 72-hour abatement notice and be subject to a misdemeanor charge possibly resulting in six months in jail and-or a \$1,000 fine. An administrative appeal may be filed within 10 days after a notice to abate is served (sections 9.29.086 and 9.29.103). The ordinance took effect 30 days after its adoption.

Modesto

On December 16, 2014, Modesto's Planning Commission, voted 7-0 for city officials to revise a proposed medical marijuana cultivation ordinance and bring it back to them for further review. They were concerned that the proposed ordinance would inadvertently harm those who legitimately grow and use medical marijuana. [Read more](#).

Modoc County

In December 2013, Modoc county passed [a zoning ordinance establishing chapter 18.175 of county code](#). Cultivation is limited to a total of twelve or fewer medical marijuana plants per qualified patient for up to two qualified patients per parcel. A 30-day notice of abatement is issued to noncompliant gardens under Chapter 8.20 of county code.