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To: Current and Prospective Medical Cannabis Registrants and Adult Use Cannabis Licensees
From: Director John Hudak, Office of Cannabis Policy
Date: July 27, 2026
Subject: Registration and Licensing Requirements for the Outdoor Cultivation of Cannabis

Background

This guidance is being issued to current and prospective medical and adult use cannabis program participants in regard to the implementation of recently enacted legislation, *An Act Regarding Outdoor Cultivation in the Medical Use Cannabis and Adult Use Cannabis Industries*, [P.L. 2025, ch. 514 \(L.D. 1897\)](#). This law **goes into effect on July 29, 2026**, along with all other regularly enacted bills from the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature. It makes changes related to the outdoor cultivation of cannabis in both the medical and adult use cannabis programs.

Guidance – Medical Use

P.L. 2025, ch. 514 makes the following changes to the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Program:

- Creates a new category of caregiver registration for caregivers cultivating their mature cannabis plants in an “outdoor cultivation area” defined as “a cultivation area that primarily uses sunlight for the cultivation of mature cannabis plants”.
- In accordance with section 3 of the new law, it permits caregivers that cultivate all their mature cannabis plants in an outdoor cultivation area to “cultivate between the months of March and December up to 150 mature cannabis plants, up to 300 immature cannabis plants and unlimited seedlings **OR** [emphasis added] cultivate between the months of March and December up to 2,500 square feet of mature plant canopy, up to 5,000 square feet of immature plant canopy and unlimited seedlings.”
- Allows any person to enter a caregiver’s secure cultivation area as long as they are “under the direct supervision of the caregiver.”

To implement these changes, the Office of Cannabis Policy (OCP) has updated the Caregiver Application Form as well as the Caregiver Change/Reissue Form to include an option for “Outdoor Only Cultivation.” **Beginning July 29, 2026**, the updated forms will be available on [OCP’s website](#). Registered caregivers can submit a Caregiver Change/Reissue Form at any time to change to outdoor cultivation or can change to that activity upon renewal.

The following table outlines the annual fee for “Outdoor Only Cultivation” activities for registered caregivers. Please keep in mind that OCP is unable to issue refunds for individuals changing to an “outdoor only” plant count that is less than their current tier.

Mature Plants/Canopy	Immature Plants/Canopy	Annual Fee
30 mature plants	60 immature plants	\$240
60 mature plants	120 immature plants	\$480
90 mature plants	180 immature plants	\$720
120 mature plants	240 immature plants	\$960
150 mature plants	300 immature plants	\$1,200
2,500 sq. ft. mature plant canopy	5,000 sq. ft. immature plant canopy	\$1,500

Guidance – Adult Use

P.L. 2025, ch. 514 makes the following changes to the Adult Use Cannabis Program:

- Creates in the Cannabis Legalization Act, Title 28-B, ch. 1, definitions of “indoor cultivation” and “outdoor cultivation”.

If the new definitions of indoor and outdoor cultivation change a licensee’s cultivation classification to “outdoor only,” the licensee can make that change upon renewal so long as it is after July 29, 2026. There are no updates necessary for the adult use application or facility plan templates if switching to “outdoor only” cultivation is the only change.

Conclusion

P.L. 2025, ch. 514 goes into effect on July 29, 2026, and makes changes related to the outdoor cultivation of cannabis in both the medical and adult use cannabis programs. Registered caregivers can change to “Outdoor Only Cultivation” by submitting a Caregiver Change/Reissue Form or can change to that activity upon renewal. Adult use cultivators can change to “Outdoor Only Cultivation” upon renewal. Individuals with questions regarding this guidance can contact OCP’s Licensing Team at Licensing.OCP@maine.gov.