

# Cannabis Retailer Packet 2024/2025

Thank you for taking the time to review the contents of this retailer packet from Healthy Lamoille Valley. As cannabis retailers you are in the perfect place to share youth safety messaging with your customers, who may have children and teens in their homes, and take steps to ensure that they don't get into the hands of youth.

## This packet includes samples of:

- Cannabis Retailer Best Practices for Youth Safety.
- Safe disposal poster & CCB guidelines
- Carding Tips from the DLL and a "We Card Because We Care" posters
- Parent Up VT - How Does Cannabis Affect Teens.
- Recovery supports: Lamoille Valley Quit Resources card and Business Cards, North Central Vermont Recovery Center Info, and Lamoille County Mental Health Crisis Cards.
- Secure Your Stash window cling for in store use and stickers for bags or as a freebee to customers.
- A Community Planning Toolkit - Preventing Youth Substance Misuse - pages 22& 23 for substance retail industry.
- Green Mountain Cannabis News Article: Vermont kids and cannabis: Addressing the risks with developing minds.
- Stanford Reach Lab Resource: Quitting Tips for Cannabis and Nicotine
- Healthy Lamoille Valley Info Sheet
- Aging and Medication: What You Should Know
- Please follow the CCB page for the latest guidelines. [www.ccb.vermont.gov](http://www.ccb.vermont.gov)

Many of the items in this packet are in sample quantities. If you would like to have more available at your location, please contact us. Healthy Lamoille Valley staff are also happy to meet with you related to your role in helping to prevent youth use.

Respectfully,



Alison Link, Policy and Outreach Coordinator

## Who We Are

Healthy Lamoille Valley is a coalition of individuals and community organizations working collaboratively to reduce youth substance misuse and encourage youth to make substance free healthy choices. We are a program of the nonprofit Lamoille Family Center, serving the communities of Vermont's Lamoille Valley region.

## What We Do



COMMUNITY HEALTH



EDUCATION



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT



TOWN PLANNING

## Why We're Here

Young people who use alcohol, marijuana, tobacco and other substances are more likely to develop substance dependency in their lifetime than those who delay use until after age 21 or later. In Lamoille County, 15% of high school students report that they first used alcohol before the age of 13, and 25% of high school students report using cannabis in the last month.

Recognizing that the adolescent years are one of the most critical for brain development, we come together as youth, parents, educators, health providers, and community members to reduce youth substance use in our communities, schools, and towns.



# Cannabis Retailer Best Practices for Youth Safety



## 1 Train staff well and often

Make sure staff know the risks of cannabis use for youth. Ensure that staff are referring customers to their own medical providers for questions, and not offering medical advice.

## Limit opportunities for youth access

Card every entry, make sure that youth cannot access your store or products. Create processes and safeguards to identify when cannabis is potentially being bought for youth.



## 3 Protect youth from marketing

Think about your marketing and product placement. Avoid marketing that might be appealing to youth. Take steps to discourage youth from wearing your brand. Send a clear "no youth use" message.

## "Secure your Stash" messaging

Help customers protect youth and pets from consumption. Share information with customers about monitoring and securing cannabis products in their homes. Sell lock boxes. Educate about proper disposal of unwanted products. Let your customers know it's illegal to provide cannabis to minors, even unintentionally.



## 5 Follow state regulations and beyond

Vermont's Cannabis Control Board and local cannabis control commissions are taking precautions to protect youth. Do your part by keeping up to date on labeling, testing, child resistant packaging, trainings, and more.

## Collaborate with your youth substance prevention coalition

We all have the common goal to restrict youth access and prevent misuse. Partner with Healthy Lamoille Valley in creating educational materials to help parents, the medical community, and youth serving organizations prevent youth access and use.



# Safe Disposal Protects Children and Pets

Check with your retailer about  
available disposal options







**VERMONT**

**CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD**

**89 Main Street Montpelier, VT 05602 | [ccb.vermont.gov](http://ccb.vermont.gov)**

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# **GUIDANCE ON WASTE DISPOSAL**

**MAY 2023**

**JAMES PEPPER, CHAIR  
JULIE HULBURD, COMMISSIONER  
KYLE HARRIS, COMMISSIONER**

**BRYNN HARE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

## Introduction

All applicable federal, state, and local statutes, regulations, and ordinances apply to waste disposal from Cannabis Establishments. This includes, but is not limited to, all regulations pertinent to chemical, dangerous, and hazardous waste, such as those that may be generated during product manufacturing processes, as well as all pesticides and other agricultural chemicals.

Cannabis waste, like other crop wastes that are compostable, untreated vegetative material are banned from landfills. However, if composters won't or can't accept the material because it has been treated or is invasive, diseased, or may contain dangerous or hazardous substances, then it could be disposed of in the trash or a landfill as a last resort.

## Non-Hazardous Waste

The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation considers Cannabis to be 'Leaf and yard residual' material, meaning compostable and untreated vegetative matter – including grass clippings, leaves, kraft paper bags, and brush – which is free from non-compostable materials. It does not include such materials as pre- and post-consumer food residuals, food processing residuals, or soiled paper.

Cannabis and Cannabis Products, meaning all flower, seeds of the plant, the resin extracted from any part of the plant, any compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or resin, as well as, concentrated cannabis products composed of cannabis and other ingredients and is intended for use or consumption, including edible products, ointments, cannabis oil for vaporizer cartridges and tinctures must be rendered unusable and unrecognizable before disposal.

The acceptable methods for rendering Cannabis and Cannabis Product unusable and unrecognizable are:

- i. grinding or compacting Cannabis and Cannabis Product with non-consumable, solid wastes, such that at least 50% of the resulting waste is non-Cannabis waste. This can be done through various methods, such as:
  - a. Paper waste;
  - b. Cardboard waste;
  - c. Food waste;
  - d. Grease or other compostable oil waste;
  - e. Bokashi or other compost activators;
  - f. Soil;
  - g. Sawdust;
  - h. or, Manure
- ii. on-site composting;
- iii. anaerobic digestion;
- iv. burning;
- v. pyrolyze into biochar; and
- vi. biomass gasification

However, the following materials (non-hazardous **ONLY**) shall not be considered cannabis waste requiring treatment to be rendered unusable and may be disposed of in accordance with standard waste disposal regulations:

# Vermont kids and cannabis: Addressing the risks with developing minds

By Jennifer Brandt, Green Mountain Cannabis News

[Vermont kids and cannabis: Addressing the risks with developing minds | GreenMountain Vermont Cannabis News | reformer.com](#)

Sep 6, 2023

When it comes to discussing cannabis with children, Kelly Dougherty, Deputy Commissioner at the Vermont Department of Health, offers a straightforward piece of advice: "You should start talking to your kids early and often."

Dougherty assumed her role as deputy commissioner at the Vermont Department of Health four and a half years ago, during a tumultuous period marked by Vermont's battle against the opioid epidemic.

Since then, much has changed. The opioid crisis has evolved with the introduction of substances like fentanyl and the alarming appearance of xylazine. The shadow of COVID-19 has loomed large, and the state has even ventured into the uncharted territory of cannabis legalization.

Drawing insights from the California Department of Public Health, Vermont has adapted its approach, learning from states like California that already have years of experience with cannabis legalization and usage data.

"We used the California model but made it more 'Vermonty,'" Dougherty explained. "We wanted to launch right when the legal market came into being."

The State of Vermont offers a resource for all Vermonters with questions about cannabis usage and risks called Let's Talk Cannabis.

Additionally, the state offers an online resource for parents to help talk to kids about drugs and alcohol called ParentUp. According to the website, a survey of teens in Vermont in 2019 found that 27% of teens reported using cannabis in the previous 30 days. So what are the risks?

Emphasizing the importance of fact-based information, Dougherty pointed to studies that demonstrate the impact of cannabis on developing brains.

"We are very pro-brain health," she said. "We know that one's brain is not fully developed until the mid-20s. Memory, learning, and attention can be impacted by cannabis use."

One critical reason to continue discussing cannabis with children as they age is that the perceived danger of cannabis decreases as they get older. According to Dougherty, "the perception of harm of cannabis use decreases with every age level."

Despite the risks associated with cannabis, particularly for developing brains, Dougherty underscores that alcohol remains the most abused substance in Vermont.

According to the previously-cited National Survey on Drug Use and Health for 2019-2020, Vermonters aged 12 and older had the highest rate of alcohol usage in the past month compared to any other state in the U.S., with 56 percent usage rates in Vermont versus the national average of 50 percent.

While cannabis legalization is relatively new, data on children and cannabis risks are scarce. However, other states with legal cannabis experienced an increase in hospitalizations post-legalization. Even very small children are not immune to the risks of cannabis.

A study published this January in the journal *Pediatrics* found that in 2017, there were just over 200 reported cases of accidental consumption of cannabis edibles by children under six. In 2021, the number shot up to 3,054 – an increase of 1,375 percent.

When asked if cannabis itself could be labeled a "gateway drug," Dougherty clarifies, "The biggest factor is trauma, not necessarily the drug itself," referring to the risk of substance abuse disorders.

"Our job is to talk to Vermonters about risk behaviors, how to talk about cannabis in Vermont," explains Dougherty, "It's about safety, i.e., not operating a vehicle under the influence and keeping cannabis products secure. It's not judgmental."

As the conversation surrounding cannabis continues to evolve in Vermont and across the nation, the guidance provided by experts like Dougherty underscores the importance of open, honest, and informed discussions with our children. It's not just about the drug's legal status; it's about safeguarding the health and well-being of future generations in the Green Mountain State and beyond.

**If you or someone you know may be suffering from addiction, you can find resources from the state of Vermont via the VT Helplink [here](#).**



# 6 Steps for

## EFFECTIVE CARDING

### 1

**Check the expiration date.**

You can never accept expired IDs even in combination with other documents.



### 2

**Check the birth date.**

Make sure the customer is 21 or older. Subtract the birth year from the current year. The result should be 21 or over. If the result is 21, make sure the birth month and day is the current date or has already passed.



### 3

**Check the signature.**

Only IDs with a valid signature are acceptable. If the ID does not have a signature, you cannot legally accept it. Most IDs will have a digital signature.

*Hayward*

### 4

**Check the photo.**

Compare the photo to the customer. People can change their hairstyle, hair color and facial hair but normally not their facial structure.



### 5

**Check the ID for defects.**

Look for cracking, peeling or anything that looks odd. Make sure the colors look correct and the proper security features are present. Consult an ID Checking Guide if you have one.



### 6

**Ask questions.**

Ask the customer questions off their ID but out of order. Can they answer quickly and with confidence? What is your zip code? What is your middle initial?



**We Card because We Care!**



Keeping area youth safe and substance free!

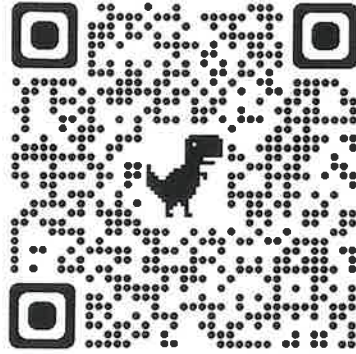
**We Card because We Care!**



Keeping area youth safe and substance free!

# LAMOILLE VALLEY QUIT HELP RESOURCES

Smoke | Vape | Chew | Other Nicotine Products



[HEALTHYLAMOILLEVALLEY.ORG/QUIT-HELP](https://HEALTHYLAMOILLEVALLEY.ORG/QUIT-HELP)

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

LOCAL QUIT GROUPS

AREA MEDICAL OFFICES

COUNSELING

QUIT COACHES

TEXT-BASED QUIT PROGRAMS

RESOURCES FOR TEENS & YOUNG ADULTS



A Program of the Lamoille Family Center

Brought to you by the  
Healthy Lamoille Valley  
Tobacco Prevention  
Task Force





# Quitting Tips for Nicotine & Cannabis

Take back control. Quitting nicotine or cannabis is no easy feat. Below are some tips and tricks that you can utilize to help with quitting either nicotine or cannabis. You got this!



Think about your **reasons for quitting**, which can be very motivating.



Plan your quit date **within 1-3 weeks**.



Prepare your environment by **throwing away your tobacco and cannabis products, lighters, and related supplies**.



Consider different ways of quitting other than "cold turkey" such as **behavioral and medical support** (e.g., NRTs and behavioral therapy).



Withdrawal symptoms are common and temporary. **Plan for how to cope with them**.



**Identify strategies** to deal with your triggers.



Explore **healthy activities**.



Get support. **You are not alone.**



For more information, infographics, and quitting resources, visit: [resources.stanfordreachlab.com](https://resources.stanfordreachlab.com)



Practice **stress-reducing techniques**.



It might take a few tries. **You got this!**