

Updated March 25, 2021 – Effective after USDA Approval on May 25, 2021

The Missouri Department of Agriculture anticipates continued regulatory changes in the coming years as state and federal rules are revised. Some of these changes may be reflected in procedures outlined in this document.

- 1. The Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) will issue, by certified mail, an *Order of Destruction (Order)* to the producer for the non-compliant lot.
 - a. MDA will also provide notification of the Order to the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP).
- 2. The producer is responsible for arranging a certification appointment with MSHP or local law enforcement, as directed on the *Order*. Contact information will be provided to the producer in the *Order*.
- 3. The producer is responsible for completing the destruction within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the *Order*. Date is verified by certified mail receipt or tracking data.
 - a. Persons who fail to destroy within the designated timeframe may be subject to an administrative fine of five hundred dollars (\$500), plus one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per day until such lot is destroyed.
 - b. Destruction must render the material unusable and non-retrievable.
 - c. Destruction methods approved by the Department are listed below. The producer must verify their preferred method is also allowable under local ordinances. On-site destruction is preferred.
 - i. Mowing, chipping, or chopping; and
 - 1. Incorporation into the soil through plowing, tilling, or disking; or
 - 2. Incorporation with other materials through composting or landfilling, *and* thorough saturation with water.
 - ii. Incorporation into the soil through plowing, tilling, or disking; or
 - iii. Burning on site
 - 1. Additional state agency approvals or permits may be required.
 - d. Other methods of destruction may be evaluated by the Department. Any methods not listed in this document must have a written, signed approval letter from the Missouri Department of Agriculture Industrial Hemp Program prior to commencing any destruction actions.
- 4. Destruction must be certified by MSHP or local law enforcement.
 - a. The producer is responsible for contacting and arranging destruction certification. Contact information will be provided in the *Order of Destruction*.
 - b. Prior to the arrival of the certifying agent, the producer shall complete sections A through E of the *Destruction Report*, which is included in the mailing of the *Order*. The certifying agent will complete section F. Both parties will sign the report.
 - i. The producer must mail the **white** copy of the completed report to MDA as soon as possible, but no later than thirty (30) calendar days after destruction.
 - ii. The producer must retain the **yellow** copy of the completed report for three (3) years.
 - iii. The certifying agent will retain the **pink** copy of the completed report for their records.
 - c. The producer is subject to a destruction certification fee commensurate with the cost reimbursed to MSHP or local law enforcement for their services.

If the *Order of Destruction* is issued for a specific lot or lots, separation of the lots must be evident as determined by the Missouri Department of Agriculture or the destruction certifying agent. If the separation is not clear, all lots within the registration, parcel, or storage facility are subject to destruction. If the ordered lot is harvested and the materials are commingled with other lots, including lots under other registrations or permits, all lots are subject to destruction.



The following pictures and descriptions are examples to improve understanding of destruction activities. Each activity alone may not be sufficient to render the materials unusable and non-retrievable.

Ag Production Activity	Compliant outcome	Photo Example
Plowing Under • Curved plow blades rotate subsoil to surface and bury crop below	 Plowing Under "Green Manure" Amends soil directly from crop 	
Mulching / Composting • Fields crops cut and blended with manure or other biomass material	Mulching / Composting • "Green Manure" • Mulch mixed with manure or other biomass	
 Leveling of field using tow-behind disk implement 	 "Green Manure" Amends soil directly from crop while leveling field 	



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Photo Example	Ag Production Activity	Compliant outcome	Photo Example
	Bush Mower / Chopper Commercial lawn mower used to shred and mix thick vegetation	Manure"	
	 Fields are trenched, surface soil is buried at depth of at least 12" 	Deep Burial • Field biomass buried in trenches and covered with soil	
	 Setting fire to specific production fields or biomatter piled on the field 	 Fields are cleared of all plant material 	