Health Permit Determination for Cannabis Operations

The Monterey County Health Department, Environmental Health Bureau (MCHD, EHB) is the designated authority throughout Monterey County, in both unincorporated areas and within city jurisdictions alike, to review and issue permits for domestic water systems, retail food sales, hazardous materials and hazardous waste management and composting operations. Based on the wide array of activities that can occur at a cannabis facility, at least one Health permit is usually required to be obtained prior to commencement of operation.

Examples of facilities that may require Health permits:

- Cultivation or Nursery Sites
- Dispensaries
- Manufacturing Facilities
- Testing Facilities
- Transportation and Distribution Operations

Prior to any city or municipality granting a cannabis facility a permit to operate, the EHB must review the proposed operation to determine if a Health permit(s) is required and when determined necessary, the applicant must obtain the Health permit prior to commencement of operation.

Submit the following to EHB:

1. Completed Request for Service application form
   form available online at http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=24404
2. Comprehensive project description with scope of operations and source(s) of water supply
3. Completed Hazardous Materials Questionnaire
   a. If the answer is ‘YES’ to any of these questions, provide a list of hazardous materials/wastes with their corresponding quantities.
4. Descriptive plan for solid waste management, including composting activities (see Cannabis Waste Management Guidance)
5. Payment for 4 hours of staff time to review the application (currently $162/hour), made payable to the Monterey County Health Department.

Within approximately 10 business days, the EHB will contact the applicant to:
A. Request additional information, or
B. Provide a list of required Health permits, or
C. Provide documentation that no Health permits are required

Questions should be directed to Brian Azevedo, (831) 796-1274. Additional information about how to apply for a food facility permit, hazardous materials or waste permit, or composting permit is available on the EHB website: www.mtyhd.org/eh