



October 11, 2023

INDUSTRY BULLETIN: 23-07

RE: Adverse Weather Preparedness

Dear Licensees:

The intention of this bulletin is to highlight resources and steps you can take to ensure you're prepared for threats from extreme weather events.

Contingency Plans

In 2020, the Division worked with stakeholders to pass and implement HB 21-1301 to allow Licensees more flexibility to prepare for and respond to extreme weather events (defined in Rule 1-115 under "Adverse Weather Events").

Under Rules 5-240 and 6-235, outdoor cultivations may establish Contingency Plans in preparation for Adverse Weather Events, which include evaluating any temporary modifications to a Licensed Premises, coordination with the local licensing authority or local jurisdiction, and the types of Adverse Weather Events contemplated, among other requirements in rule. Contingency Plans require [an application and review by the Division](#), so don't put it off if this is part of your Adverse Weather Event preparedness plan. If you hold a Regulated Marijuana Cultivation Facility license and operate an outdoors licensed premises, the Division encourages you to consider what steps you may take to avoid or mitigate an extreme weather event.

Are you prepared if your business is threatened by wildfires or floods?

According to the Colorado State Forest Service, nearly half of all Coloradans live in the wildland-urban interface and are at risk from wildfires. It is ultimately your responsibility to protect your property from threats of wildfire, but there are steps you can take to help protect your business and property. The Colorado State Forest Service, and other organizations, have collected valuable resources that can help you take steps to protect your property, including:

[Live Wildfire Ready](#) - Learn about your area's risk and download a checklist of preventive actions.¹

[Protect Your Home & Property from Wildfire](#) - Additional resources and tools to reduce your wildfire risk.²

[Planning for Hazards: Wildfire](#) - Information about wildfires in Colorado, related hazards, data, and planning tools and strategies.³

Did you know that floods are the most common and widespread natural hazard in Colorado, and 267 towns in all 64 Colorado counties are flood-prone. According to the Colorado Water Conservation Board, area wildfires may increase flood risks, but there are tools to help you understand your flood risk and prepare:

¹ Provided by Colorado State Forest Service.

² Provided by Colorado State Forest Service.

³ Colorado Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, [Mitigation and Recovery Information for Colorado](#).

[Colorado Flood Threat](#) - See real-time data about flood threats in your area.⁴

[FloodSmart.gov](#) - A FEMA tool to help you prepare and mitigate potential risk or damage from a flood.⁵

[National Flood Hazard Viewer](#) - Use this FEMA tool to determine if you're in a Floodplain.⁶

Visit the [Colorado Water Conservation Board website](#) for more information. Additionally, your local county or municipality may have resources including emergency management and preparedness specialists or a hazard mitigation plan to provide further information and guidance.

⁴ Available through <https://cwb.colorado.gov/focus-areas/hazards/flood-information-resources>.

⁵ Available through <https://cwb.colorado.gov/focus-areas/hazards/flood-information-resources>.

⁶ Available through <https://cwb.colorado.gov/focus-areas/hazards/flood-information-resources>.