

# Environmental Impact of Cannabis

~10 MILLION CARS



**In 2023, cannabis industry emissions were 44 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e, which is equivalent to the emissions of 10 million cars.**

5-6 GALLONS PER DAY PER PLANT



**Commercial growers have limited access to water resources. Cannabis is a water-intensive crop, which increases the risk of straining resources and impacting ecosystems.**



**Cannabis plants emit biogenic volatile organic compounds, commonly through terpenes. These compounds can form ozone and secondary organic aerosol, which negatively impact air quality.**



**Cannabis waste has to be mixed with at least 50% non-cannabis waste. One disposal method is landfills, where cannabis waste decomposes and releases methane.**



# News & Information



**Indoor Cultivation Drives the Cannabis Industry's Carbon Footprint**

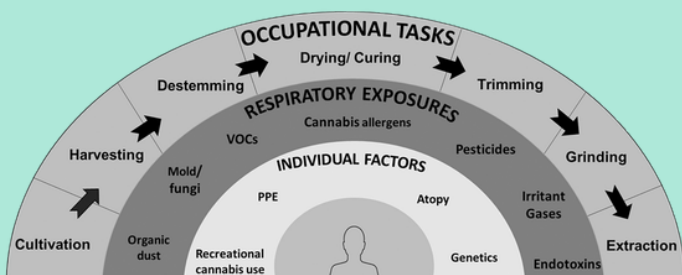
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# AP

**Illegal Marijuana Farms Take West's Water in 'Blatant Theft'**

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Figure 1. Occupational Respiratory Exposures in Cannabis Workers.



**The Emerging Spectrum of Respiratory Diseases in the US Cannabis Industry**

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**A Narrative Review on Environmental Impacts of Cannabis Cultivation**

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# Resources



**The New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission oversees the cannabis industry in NJ.**

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**New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is dedicated to improving and protecting public health and the environment.**  
**Warn Line: 1-877-WARN-DEP**

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**The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency invites you to help protect the environment by identifying and reporting environmental violations.**

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**Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station Cooperative Extension. Environment and Natural Resources.**

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