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FREE!

## MICHIGAN CANNABIS DIRECTORY

2023 MICHIGAN CANNABIS OUTLOOK by Rick Thompson



**NAUGHTY OR NICE** by Cocktail Bettie



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by Rick Thompson It hardly seems possible I'm writing the last column of the year, but December always follows November, and here we are...



#### DAB, VAPE, OR ROLL

by Daisy Jane Have you ever felt overwhelmed with all the terms and methods of cannabis consumption but also felt too embarrassed to ask questions? Well, you are not alone.

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by ROSE M. JOHNSON President Biden granted pardons for all prior federal offenses of simple possession of Marijuana.

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by COCKTAIL BETTIE Well here we are, enjoying the warm weather and outdoor eating and entertaining that summertime in Michigan brings.



# 2022



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Rick Thompson Cannabis Media Specialist NORML of Michigan Executive Director

It hardly seems possible I'm writing the last column of the year, but December always follows November, and here we are. Let's look at what we have to look forward to in Michigan's cannabis community for 2023!

First of all, look for more events. Detroit is just now starting to ramp up the cannabis-related events industry, and there are so many popular venues in the city for 420 happenings. The regulated market is becoming more competitive statewide, and that means companies will look for an opportunity to promote themselves directly to their customer base. Look for more business-to-business events where there is no consumption, and more consumer-friendly events where smoking is allowed. Then, look for the unregulated market events, too, which prospered and thrived in 2022 and sometimes offer better deals and more friendly rules.

You can also look for more chaos, and it should be easier to find than before. Your favorite store may no longer be open, or it might suddenly be called by a different name. It's tough to predict which companies will stick and which will sell or fold. The same goes for cultivation operations, transport companies and even testing labs. Market dominance has consequences for those who become dominated. No industry

# 2023 MICHIGAN CANNABIS OUTLOOK

is safe from the crushing effect of falling prices and an unfair set of market rules.

There is hope that the new set of lawmakers will be more consumer friendly than the last group were. The Democratic trifecta- control of the House, the Senate and the Governor's gavel- should make it easier for positive laws to be passed, and to hold misbehaving politicos accountable for their graft, grift and greed. We need protections for patients and caregivers in municipal situations where misinformed local authorities propose changes to stifle the rights given in 2008 under the Medical Marihuana Act. Our consumers need better label requirements and accurate testing results. Look for improvements in these areas.

Look for more enforcement actions in 2023 than in the past few years. Acting Director Hanna has promised to emphasize a cleansing from the regulated market of unregulated cannabis. He's even put all dispensaries and processors "on notice." Recent actions in Flint and Detroit signal the Agency is serious about a much-needed colon cleanse of the regulated market's bad actors. The Marijuana and Tobacco Investigations Section of the Michigan State Police already conducted a poorly-planned raid on Mr. Thue in Traverse City; they are likely to 'raid first and ask questions later' for the remainder of their existence. Someone needs to tell them, it's just a plant.

Finally, there should be an end to the Viridis Labs testing scandal. The court has granted the company the right to sue four State employees, alleging malice and intent to disrupt Viridis' testing lab business. The State hasn't yet punished Viridis for the many issues for which that company was fined. Moving past this headline-stealing story should be both an end to litigation and a fix to the state's totally screwed up testing industry. Cheating, even in the name of science, is still wrong.

I hope you have a happy holiday season and that you share this copy of The Rolling Paper with a friend or two. Spread the cheer every day of your life!



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Rose M. Johnson Cannabis Culture Writer / Correspondent

## CANNABIS CULTURE

October 6, 2022 was a day for celebration in the progress toward the federal legalization of Marijuana. President Biden granted pardons for all prior federal offenses of simple possession of Marijuana. While the headlines were touting the thousands pardoned, this gave the illusion that a flood of prisoners would be released all around the country. The truth is that not a single prisoner was released. Not because the pardon wasn't upheld, but because there were no

prisoners sitting in cells due to simple marijuana possession.

Now, there were thousands pardoned and this is still a great thing. Over six thousand people who had felony possession convictions and have already served their time received pardons from their federal convictions. They will now be able to apply for housing, employment, student loans, and other services they were previously restricted from because of those convictions.

Is this enough, though? As Biden gave his statement announcing the pardons, he also included two other action points: 1- calling on all governors to also issue pardons on the state level; 2- calling on the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Attorney General "to review expeditiously how marijuana is scheduled under federal law".

This is a good step forward calling out those states who still prosecute individuals for simple marijuana possession and President Biden is asking for a closer look at current marijuana restrictions. Specifically, he clarified that Marijuana is currently a Schedule I drug along with heroin and LSD and that it currently has a higher classification than those drugs that are at the epicenter of the drug crisis within the US: fentanyl and methamphetamine.

Since Biden's presidential campaign began in 2019, the President has stood by



the platform that he supports decriminalization of marijuana and legalization federally for medical use, but he prefers to leave recreational legalization up to the individual states. Pardoning simple marijuana possession charges was acceptable for him, but even still, according to NORML, there were 400,340 marijuana-related seizures in 2021 alone. As Alex Halperin writes in Slate, "There's obvious hypocrisy in the overlapping systems that lock up small-time hustlers while companies across the state line, or even within it, harvest weed on an industrial scale". There is clearly much to still be done in the battle for legalization of marijuana.

When the announcement of these pardons and the call to the governors was made, several democratic governors were fast to respond that they had already have laws in place within their states. Michigan's Governor Whitmer was quick to point out that medical marijuana has been legal since 2008 and recreational marijuana since 2018. If you live in or near Michigan, you surely already know this as both of our southern neighbors still do not have legalized recreational marijuana.

Governor Whitmer also laminated to the rest of the country that Michigan is a cannabis-friendly state; however, she did not jump on the pardoning bandwagon instead the State of Michigan has come up with an alternative solution, one they call a "Clean Slate". More specifically, according to the State of Michigan website, "a person convicted of 1 or more misdemeanor or local ordinance marijuana crimes may petition the convicting court to set aside the convictions if they were based on activity that would not have been a crime after December 6, 2018, when a 2018 voter-passed initiative to legalize recreational use of marijuana in Michigan went into effect" (MCL 780.621e). According to Safe and Just Michigan, a nonprofit organization whose work is to end over-incarceration within Michigan, this law is much-needed. They state that only 6.5% of those eligible for expungement under previous laws sought it out. This new law can change the lives of approximately 240,000 Michiganders!

In addition to this, the Clean Slate Act expungement process has also been updated to include anyone who has 3 or less felonies or an unlimited amount of misdemeanors, regardless of whether they are marijuana related. This act was also revamped to include automatic expungement beginning in April 2023 for up to two felony convictions and 4 misdemeanor convictions.

This is an unprecedented law that is setting the groundwork for the entire nation. This means that, instead of going through 6 to 9 months, or even longer, of paperwork and court appearances, the state will begin to automatically expunge records of those who qualify. While the manual expungement process can be processed as soon as 5 years after the discharge of parole, probation, or completion of imprisonment for a felony (or 7 years for 2-3 felonies), the automatic expungement would not occur until 10 years after. The misdemeanor wait time for the manual process is 3 years while the automatic expungement is 7 years.

More Information contact: safeandjustmi.org michigan.gov/msp/services



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AFTER DARK (21+) LIVE IN THE SKY ROOM | 7PM \*MUST PURCHASE TICKET TO ATTEND\*

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THE ROLLING PAPER MONTHLY · DECEMBER 202

Cocktail Bettie The Toast Mistress of Adult Recreational Fun

> I don't know about you, but the holiday season snuck up on me! All the hustle and bustle of preparing for the most stressful time of year has me exceptionally grateful for the MANY wonderful benefits we can receive from my favorite plant/herb... Cannabis!!

**NICE** 

Feeling stressed or irritated? Cannabis can help that. Body soreness from working and shopping? Cannabis can help that. Did you "party" a little too hard and now feel a bit sluggish with a headache or maybe even a hangover? Cannabis can help with that. There's not much Cannabis can't help with, in my opinion. So if your idea of a good time has you behaving Naughty or Nice. I have a very easy recipe for an adult treat that is sure to make your holiday season a lot more tolerable, if not actually fun!!

#### Naughty or Nice Cookies.... (aka, Lump Of Coal CannaCookies)

#### INGREDIENTS

- \* 1/4 Cup Salted Butter (CannaButter)
- \* 4 Cups Mini Marshmallows
- \* 40 Oreo Cookies, crushed
- \* 1/2 Cup Dark Chocolate Chunks or Chips

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

AUGHTY

1. Lightly coat a baking sheet pan with cooking spray. Or line with silicone or parchment paper and set aside.

2. Melt \*CannaButter in a medium pot, and melt over a medium heat.

3. Once butter is completely melted, add marshmallows, stirring until marshmallows are completely melted.

4. Remove from heat and stir in crushed cookies and chocolate chunks/chips. Working quickly, stir ingredients until throughly coated and mixed together well.

5. Spoon desired size cookies on to the baking sheet and allow cookie coal clumps to cool.

\* Store in air-tight containers at cool temperatures, for up to five days\*

\*Medical marijuana for use by registered qualifying patients only. Recreational marijuana for use by adults 21+ years old. Keep out of reach of children. it is illegal to drive a motor vehicle while under the influenceof marihuana. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222. This publication is not to be distributed to readers under 18 years old.



Have you ever felt overwhelmed with all the terms and methods of cannabis consumption but also felt too embarrassed to ask questions? Well, you are not alone. The cannabis world is growing daily, both in participants and in methods. Instead of just going with the flow and pretending to know all about it all, keep reading for a crash course in cannabis consumption.

The old standard of smoking in multiple different forms, such as rolling into blunts or joints and packing pipes or bongs will never go out of style. A newer form of inhaled delivery is through vaping with vape pens or using dab rigs. There are also those delicious little edibles ranging from baked goods to gummies and so much more. If you are looking for a more directed application of cannabis for pain relief or muscle stiffness, you can also use topical products like lotions or oils without the psychoactive effects that the other methods provide.

Typically, inhalation methods have the quickest results as you are inhaling the cannabis directly into your lungs. Vape pens and dabs use concentrated cannabis, so the effects are typically much stronger with this method. However, if you are looking for a longer effect, edible is usually the way to go. While those gummies or brownies may take a bit to kick in, sometimes up to an hour or more, the high lasts for several hours as it is being directly absorbed through the digestive tract.

Check out our guide below to the most popular methods of cannabis consumption: dabbing, vaping, and rolling.

#### HOW DO YOU DAB?

Dabbing is the flash vaporization of dabs at high temperatures. This is done through a dab rig, e-rig, or dab pen. The most common method is a dab rig. While this is similar to a bong, even down to a chamber that holds water for cooling vapor, but instead of a bowl for flower, a dab rig has a nail for concentrates.

To take a dab, the nail of a dab rig is heated with a torch and allowed to cool to the correct temperature. The dab is placed in the nail and the extreme heat vaporizes it. A carb cap is placed over the nail and the dabber inhales, controlling the airflow with the carb cap. Vapor travels from the nail into the main chamber of the rig, and is cooled by water before hitting the dabber's lungs.

#### **TYPES OF DABS**

• Shatter - typically gold or amber in color, and is hard



and breaks apart like glass.

• Wax - an umbrella term for many types of dabs that are soft and malleable. Examples are Crumble, Sugar, and Budder.

• Live resin - made from cannabis plants. that are frozen at harvest and kept frozen throughout the extraction process, whereas most other extracts are made with dried plant material.

• Sauce - a goopy solution of cannabinoids and terpenes that is known for being very flavorful.

• Diamonds - primarily made of one cannabis compound, such as THCA or CBD, and have such a high degree of purity that they form a crystalline solid.

• Taffy (Pull 'n' Snap) - a glossy, flat concentrate with a soft, taffy-like texture.

#### Pros & Cons

• Pro - The effect is much cleaner and stronger than a joint or vaporizer.

• Con - High cannabinoid concentrations can lead to a higher tolerance and therefore more pronounced withdrawal symptoms.

• Con - Chemical solvents such as ethanol, alcohol, propane or butane are used in the creation of dabs.

#### **HOW DO YOU VAPE?**

Cannabis vaping is a way of consuming cannabis by inhalation, to get high or receive therapeutic benefits from weed. Vaporization of cannabis occurs at a lower temperature than combustion, which occurs when smoking weed.

#### **TYPES OF VAPE DELIVERY**

• 510 thread - Named for the threading at the bottom of the cartridge, they are the most common and universal style.

• Disposable pens - incredibly popular and convenient as a result of their all-in-one construction containing the battery, cartridge, and mouthpiece in one disposable device.

• Proprietary - cartridges that are only compatible with a specific brands batteries and are typically available at licensed retailer .

#### Pros & Cons

• Pro - Vapor often imparts a fuller flavor and smoother inhale than smoke.

• Pro - A more discrete device that is portable and can be used without the pungent aroma of weed smoke in the air or on their person.

- Pro produces stronger effects than smoking
- Con contains carcinogenic substances that can impact lung function and immunity.

#### HOW DO YOU ROLL?

One of the most traditional (and for some near impossible task to master) way in which to prepare and partake:

1. Cut or grind the marijuana flower, being sure to remove any stems or seeds.

Create a crutch (or filter), if desired. This is not necessary but some believe it adds stability and allows the joint to be smoked all the way down more effectively.
 Fill the rolling paper with the flower.

4. Roll the joint by pinching the paper between your fingertips and rolling it back and forth to pack the cannabis into its final shape.

#### **TYPES OF ROLLING PAPERS**

• 1-¼" rolling papers - the de facto standard for cannabis consumption.

• Cones - empty joints that need only be packed with ground weed; no fussing with edges or licking glue strips.

• Alternative materials – dried flower petals or fruit, bamboo, rice paper, etc.

• Flavored papers - including lip-coating modern classics, terpene-enhanced palm leaves, hemp wraps, and flavored blunts.

• Blunt wraps - made out of tobacco, can also be emptied-out cigars or cigarillos.

#### Pros & Cons

Pro – Rolling is almost like a pre-smoke ritual
Pro – Once rolled, it can be transported and smoked

inconspicuously

• Pro – The equipment (grinder, scissors, rolling tray, papers, etc.) can be very inexpensive

• Con – Learning to roll can be frustrating, wasteful, and time-consuming

• Con – If you don't have one rolled when you're out, it makes consumption very difficult

Within the different generations, preferences for consumption vary as widely as personalities. However, there does seem to be a common thread. Across the board, the most popular form of marijuana consumption is inhalation, and more specifically smoked. One study comparing the consumptions of both Boomers and Millennials showed that 50% of Millennials prefer inhalables while only 18% prefer edibles and even less, 14%, prefer vapes. Since half of the Boomers polled report using marijuana for strictly medicinal uses, their numbers were slightly different. Still, the majority, at 39% prefer to smoke. Another 23% consume through capsules and 14% through edibles.

