



TECHNICAL ADVISORY GUIDANCE
INFORMATION REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

TA #26050002

For: All West Virginia Medical Cannabis Permittees

Issuing Agency: Bureau for Public Health/ Office of Medical Cannabis

Effective Date: 05/01/2026

Technical Advisory: METRC Tag Placement & Readability Requirements

The West Virginia Department of Health, Bureau for Public Health, Office of Medical Cannabis (OMC) is issuing this technical advisory to make inventory scanning faster and more accurate.

The Office of Medical Cannabis (OMC) has identified ongoing compliance issues related to improper METRC tag placement across multiple license types. Improper placement is impacting RFID readability, inventory tracking, and overall system integrity.

This advisory serves as a reminder of proper tag handling and placement expectations.

Growers / Processors

- METRC tags must be placed in a manner that ensures they remain clean, visible, and readable at all times.
- Tags should not be covered in dirt, debris, or plant material and must not be allowed to become waterlogged or degraded.
- Tags should not be placed directly against metal surfaces, as this interferes with RFID scanning.
- As plants mature, tags should be adjusted and repositioned as needed to maintain visibility and functionality.
- Once the plant can support it, tags should be secured higher on the plant (e.g., around a branch/limb) to prevent contact with soil, water, or runoff.

Dispensaries

- Tags must be placed so they are clearly associated with the product and easily scannable.

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- Tags must not be taped directly to metal surfaces, as this can prevent proper RFID reads.
- Tags must not be stacked on top of one another or otherwise obstructed.
- Tags must not be placed loosely in bins underneath the product or in any manner that prevents quick identification and scanning.

Compliance Reminder

Proper METRC tag placement is required. Failure to maintain readable, functional tags may result in inventory discrepancies, delays in inspections, and potential compliance action.

Permittees are expected to review their current practices and make immediate corrections where needed.