

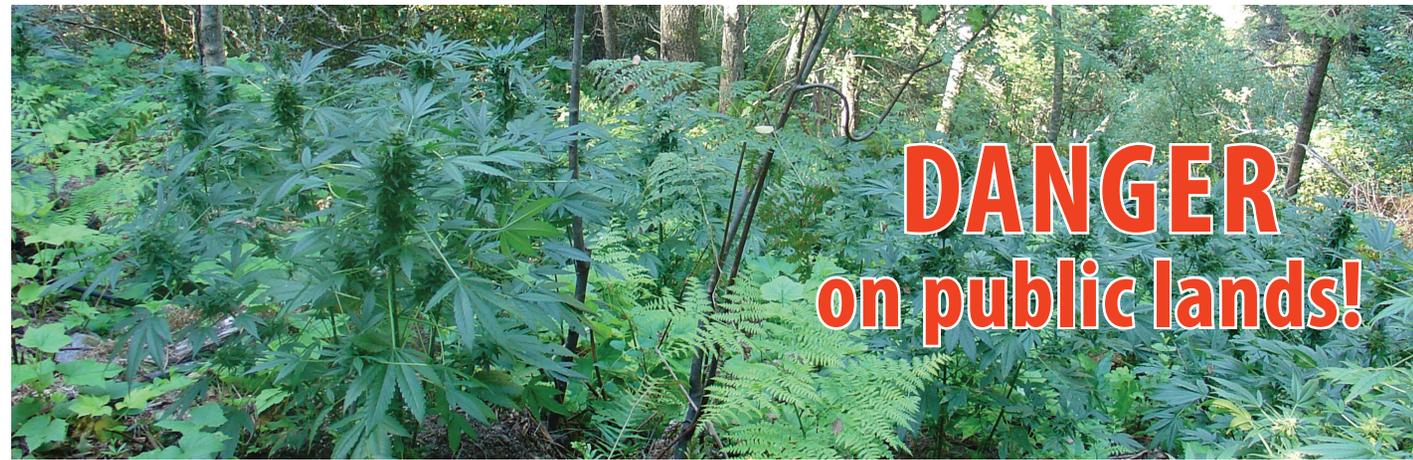
Public land is increasingly popular for growing marijuana

It's BIG Business

High-grade processed marijuana sells for as much as \$3,500 per pound. Profits from this illegal activity can range into the millions of dollars and cause untold resource damage to your public lands. Pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers can harm local wildlife and fisheries. These illicit growing operations occur throughout the country. Authorities are working to stop this illegal drug production on public land.



Growers are often armed with all types of weapons, including assault rifles and booby traps. These were seized at a grow site on national forest land.



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USDA Forest Service,
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and the Bureau of Land
Management*



**For your own safety
BE ALERT
watch for marijuana cultivation
on public lands.**

Why has public land become more attractive for this illegal activity?

These marijuana operations have been conducted on lands of all ownership. Public lands are vast and uninhabited with many areas of rich, fertile soil, and a climate that provides the conditions necessary for growing marijuana. Isolation and limited public access lessen the likelihood of being noticed.

Multi-agency Law Enforcement Efforts

Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials in Colorado are concerned with the illegal cultivation of marijuana on public land. Information is shared among all law enforcement agencies in a continuous effort to identify individuals and organizations, engaged in this illegal activity. Growing marijuana on public land causes serious resource damage and poses a significant threat to public safety.

Look For These Signs . . .

- Cleared brush and timber in remote areas
- Signs of cultivation or soil disturbance in unlikely or remote areas
- Unusual structures in remote areas such as lean-tos or tents made from cut trees, brush, or tarps
- Large quantities of food and cooking supplies, sleeping bags, clothing, etc., indicating live-in camps
- Buckets, garden tools, various size plant pots, pesticides, fertilizer, and propane tanks
- Plastic PVC hoses, pipe, and sprinkler fittings coming from streams and makeshift water reservoirs
- Camouflage clothing or netting
- Marijuana plants (five-lobed, green leaves with serrated edges, height varies)

Wanted . . . your help locating marijuana growing on public land. If you see any of these signs:

DO

- IMMEDIATELY leave the area the same way you entered noting land marks, maps, or GPS coordinates to determine your location. This will be helpful when relating the location of the grow site to law enforcement authorities.
- Be aware of vehicles or people in or around the area.
- IMMEDIATELY notify law enforcement by calling 303-275-5266 or contact your local sheriff's office and then keep the information to yourself. (Callers may remain anonymous.)

DO NOT

- Look around the area for additional plants or cultivation sites.
- Take a sample plant or segment of a plant with you.
- Leave any signs of your presence in the area.
- Agree to follow or meet unknown people in or near the cultivation site.



Structures built from trees, shrubs and tarps serve as shelter (top) and lookout posts (below) for growers protecting their grow areas.



Many different types of water reservoirs are built to provide water to marijuana plants. Trough-like structures (above), culverts covered by tarps, and PVC hoses and pipes coming from streams are common.