



1200 Washington Ave, Bay City, Michigan 48708
<http://www.baycounty-mi.gov/Health>
Facebook, Instagram: @BayCountyHD

989-895-4009, PHONE
989-895-2083, FAX
989-895-4049, TDD

James A. Barcia
Bay County Executive

Joel R. Strasz
Public Health Officer

Thomas John Bender, MD, PhD
Medical Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: All Media
From: Joel Strasz, Public Health Officer – Bay County Health Department
Date: August 10, 2023
Re: **Bay County Health Department Promotes Safe Marijuana Storage**

BAY COUNTY, MICHIGAN – As a part of its marijuana education and prevention campaign (The Blunt Facts), the Bay County Health Department is promoting safe marijuana storage with FREE lock-up bags or boxes to those who use marijuana products. Both items are limited to one per household and while supplies last.

Although medical and recreational marijuana are legal in the state of Michigan, it is important that anyone in the community in possession of marijuana is taking steps to keep these substances locked up in a safe place. Lock-up bags offer an option for adults to keep marijuana locked away from children and pets who could experience adverse health effects due to an accidental ingestion. Marijuana products should always be out of sight and reach from young children and pets and put away after every use.

“Whether you use it recreationally or for medical reasons, we want to encourage residents to use marijuana responsibly and keep it locked up and away from young children and pets,” says Joel Strasz, Health Officer from the Bay County Health Department.

A national study in the journal [Pediatrics](#), found that in 2017, there were just over 200 reported cases of accidental consumption of cannabis edibles by children under six in the U.S. In 2021, the number shot up to 3,054 – an increase of 1,375%. Marijuana lock-bags help reduce the risk of harm to children due to accidental ingestion, and keep our communities safe while supporting the adult use of marijuana in Bay County.

Common symptoms after THC or CBD exposure can include:

- Lethargy
- Confusion/agitation
- Unsteady gait
- Nausea/vomiting
- Muscle weakness

If you or anyone you know is experiencing difficulty breathing, or any form of physical or mental distress after a potential marijuana exposure, call 911 or seek medical care immediately. You may also contact Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222.

The Blunt Facts awareness campaign is focused on promoting safe marijuana storage, educating women about the risks associated with marijuana use while pregnant and breastfeeding, and preventing teen use. To learn more about the campaign and other educational resources, visit: TheBluntFacts.com.

The Bay County Health Department was a recipient of the Marijuana Operation and Oversight Grant through the Cannabis Regulatory Agency within the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

If you have any questions or would like a lock up bag, please visit or contact the Bay County Health Department at (989) 895-4009, Monday through Friday, 8am-5pm.

####