

**VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS
ORDINANCE 2026-009**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VERNON HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO
PROVIDE FOR A NEW SECTION 14-6 OF CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE I ENTITLED
“TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL PRODUCTS”**

WHEREAS, Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol, also known as Delta-8 THC, and Delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol, also known as Delta-9 THC are psychoactive substances typically manufactured from hemp-derived cannabidiol (CBD); and

WHEREAS, Delta-9 THC (or “Delta-9”) Delta-8 THC (or “Delta-8”) are becoming widely available for purchase due to the passage of the 2018 Agricultural Improvement Act allowing hemp-derived products containing less than .3% THC on a dry weight basis; and

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2025 the President signed the FY2026 Agriculture Appropriations Law which bans most intoxicating hemp-derived products. The new law goes into effect on November 12, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Delta-8 has not been approved or evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration for a safe use in any context; and

WHEREAS, the United States Drug Enforcement Agency opined that synthetically derived Delta-8 and Delta-9 are illegal controlled substances; and

WHEREAS, the Village has received information relating to the sale in the Village of psychoactive cannabinoids at establishments which are not licensed or otherwise permitted or authorized to do so pursuant to the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (410 ILCS 705/1, et seq.) or the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act (410 ILCS 130/1, et seq.); and

WHEREAS, psychoactive cannabinoids need to be regulated to protect the public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Vernon Hills is a home rule unit of government, and pursuant to Article VII, Section 6(a) of the Illinois Constitution, may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs; and

WHEREAS, the regulation of the sale or possession of psychoactive cannabinoids and the protection of the public health and safety pertain to the government and affairs of the Village.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES, OF THE VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

SECTION 1. That foregoing recitals are hereby incorporated into this ordinance as though fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2. That Chapter 14 of the Vernon Hills Municipal Code be and is hereby further amended by adding a new Section 14-6 thereto entitled “Tetrahydrocannabinol Products” to read as follows:

“SECTION 14.6 - TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL PRODUCTS

(a) Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where a context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Tetrahydrocannabinol means without limitation, the following:

- A. Delta-1 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol;
- B. Delta-6 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and its optical isomers;
- C. Delta-3.4 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and its optical isomers;
- D. Delta-10 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and its optical isomers;
- E. Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol acetate 8 ester;
- F. Delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol acetate 10 ester;
- G. Delta-6a,10a tetrahydrocannabinol acetate ester;
- H. Delta-10 tetrahydrocannabinol acetate ester;
- I. A product derived from industrial hemp that was produced as a result of a chemical process that converted the industrial hemp or a substance contained in the industrial hemp into Delta-8, Delta-9, Delta-6a, 10a, or Delta-10 tetrahydrocannabinol including their respective acetate esters; and
- J. Any other psychoactive substance derived therein.

Tetrahydrocannabinol Product means any product containing Tetrahydrocannabinol used for human consumption.

(b) Sale or delivery.

It shall be unlawful for any person or business, as the term “business” is defined in Section 10-1(a) of Chapter 10 of the Vernon Hills Municipal Code, to advertise, display, sell, offer for sale, give away or deliver any tetrahydrocannabinol product.

(c) Exceptions.

The provisions of this chapter shall have no bearing or effect on establishments licensed by the State of Illinois pursuant to the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (410 ILCS 705/1, et seq.) or the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act (410 ILCS 130/1, et seq.).

(d) Penalties.

- A. Any person and/or business violating any provisions or failing to comply with any of the mandatory requirements of this chapter shall be guilty of an offense. Any person convicted of an offense under this chapter, in addition to other legal and equitable remedies available to the Village, shall be punished by a fine in an amount not less than \$1,000.00 for each offense.

- B. In addition to the payment of the aforesaid fine, any person and/or business found to be in violation of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be required to reimburse the Village the cost of any laboratory testing or other testing of the tetrahydrocannabinol products in question.
- C. Any person and/or business shall be guilty of a separate offense for each and every day during any portion of which any violation of any provision of this chapter is committed, continued or permitted by any such person, and such person shall be punished accordingly.
- D. The levy and/or payment of any penalty or fine provided in this chapter shall not be deemed to waive the power of Village to suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a license or to seek injunctive relief to enjoin violations of this chapter or any other applicable provisions of law.”

SECTION 3. That all ordinances or parts of ordinance in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance be and are hereby repealed to the extent of any such conflict.

SECTION 4. That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect as of May 1, 2026.

Dated the 3rd day of February, 2026.

Adopted by roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 6 – Marquardt, Forster, Oppenheim, Schenk, Takaoka, Koch

NAYS: 0 -None

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING: 1 - Lundeen


Thom Koch, Jr., Village President

PASSED: 02/03/2026

APPROVED: 02/03/2026

ATTEST: 02/03/2026


Kevin Timony, Village Clerk



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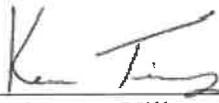
THE 3rd DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

Published in pamphlet form by the Authority of the
President and Board of Trustees of the Village of
Vernon Hills, Lake County, Illinois, this
3rd day of February, 2026

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)
COUNTY OF LAKE)

I, KEVIN TIMONY, BEING FIRST DULY APPOINTED, DEPOSES AND SAYS ON OATH THAT AS VILLAGE CLERK OF THE VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS, HE DID CAUSE THE FOREGOING CERTIFICATE FOR ORDINANCE NO. 2026-009 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VERNON HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROVIDE FOR A NEW SECTION 14-6 OF CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE I ENTITLED "TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL PRODUCTS" TO BE POSTED IN THE VILLAGE HALL AS REQUIRED BY LAW FROM FEBRUARY 3, 2026 TO FEBRUARY 13, 2026.



Kevin Timony, Village Clerk

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME
THIS 3rd DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026



Notary Public

