

**MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM**

Please make check or money order payable to MI-HEMP and mail to:

MI-HEMP  
17535 Co Rd 451  
Hillman, MI 49746

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Membership \$10.00 per year

Enhanced Membership \$15.00 per year \*

Active Membership

(Enhanced membership includes an MI-HEMP.org email address)

\*If selecting an enhanced membership please print clearly your requested email address below: (example: [somebody@mi-hemp.org](mailto:somebody@mi-hemp.org))

A confirmation email and instructions will be sent to your primary email address. If your request is unavailable our web master will contact you for an alternate email address request.

\_\_\_\_\_@mi-hemp.org

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO INCLUDE YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER WITH THIS FORM**

**Our Board of Directors**

Everett Swift.....Executive Director

Nakita Swift..... Executive Board  
/Asst. Executive Director

Matthew Abel..... Executive Board  
/Legal Counsel

Bruce Hartdegen..... Executive Board

Diane Luckey.....Executive Board  
/Outreach Director

Jolene Fowler.....Executive Board  
/Fundraising Director

Melody Karr.....Executive Secretary

James Campbell.....Treasurer

MIHEMP ‘s Board of Directors are very dedicated, motivated, and are well educated on Industrial Hemp.

To learn more about MIHEMP and what you can do to help our efforts visit our web site at [www.mihemp.org](http://www.mihemp.org) and [www.facebook.com/mihemp](http://www.facebook.com/mihemp)

Email [eswift@mi-hemp.org](mailto:eswift@mi-hemp.org),  
Media or press related inquires please email [press@mi-hemp.org](mailto:press@mi-hemp.org)

Address: 17535 Co Rd 451  
Hillman, Mi 49746

Phone: 989-884-1139



**What is Industrial Hemp?**

Many people are under the false impression that hemp and marijuana are the same thing, but this is simply not true.

Industrial hemp is a high value, low-input crop that Michigan will benefit from, if given the ability to use it as a natural resource.

It is currently estimated that industrial hemp provides materials for over 25,000 products. It can be found in everything from food, body lotions, textiles, automotive parts, building materials, bio fuel, biodegradable plastics and more. Clearly, it would not only benefit farmers, but producers and manufacturers as well

In Michigan, where we already have a strong relationship with industry, **growing a crop like hemp can only mean more money and jobs for Michigan.**

Since Canada lifted restrictions on the crop in 1996 they have seen tremendous growth in the industry. Canadian studies have also demonstrated that one of the advantages of the crop is that it is easy to grow.

Hemp has a lot of value as a green crop. It is a great rotation crop, and needs little to no pesticides. **The amount of paper made from four acres of trees can be made using only one acre of Hemp.**

In addition to being a low-input green crop, the market for hemp is constantly expanding.

In 2009 it was estimated the United States imported 360 million dollars in hemp and hemp products. In 2010, imports increased to 419 million dollars from countries like Canada, China, Romania, Hungary, and India. Industry insiders say they believe that number to be a *low* estimate.

The United States is the *ONLY* industrialized country in the world that does not have an industrial hemp program, yet we are the largest importer of hemp and hemp products in the world.



### History of Hemp in America

Hemp has a long history in the United States. Since colonial days, industrial hemp was widely grown throughout the United States because of its high use in coarse and fine fabrics, twine, and paper. In fact, there was a time in this country where you could actually pay your taxes with hemp, and it wasn't until the 1890's that advancements in labor saving machinery started to make cotton a more competitive source for clothing and other textiles. Hemp production continued in the United States through the early 1900's. The USDA studied hemp and provided help to farmers growing it just as it would any other crop. However, things began to change for hemp. In 1937, the marijuana tax was passed and hemp was unjustly classified as a narcotic drug because of its relation to psychoactive cannabis – regardless of the fact that it has no drug value.

However, during World War II, hemp production was brought back to the United States by a program called *Hemp for Victory*. In 1943, hemp production was at a high of 150 million pounds and by 1958, hemp production in the United States phased out completely. Today there is no commercial production of hemp in the United States.

It is not illegal in the United States to grow hemp as long as you are in compliance with local and state laws. However, to plant hemp you must get a permit from the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) because of its visual similarities to marijuana. The DEA has yet to issue a permit to grow industrial hemp and has successfully stopped several groups from planting the crop, most notoriously in the case of a group of farmers in North Dakota. Michigan, however, is definitely making headway. In 2011, three Michigan counties passed resolutions and MIHEMP plans on continuing their county to county campaign to help raise awareness for the issue on a local level.

### What is MIHEMP?

MIHEMP is the Michigan Industrial Hemp Education and Marketing Project. We are a non-profit, nonpartisan organization working to bring industrial hemp legislation to Michigan. By doing this, we hope that Michigan can lead the way in the hemp industry and harness this natural resource for private and industrial use. MIHEMP recognizes that industrial hemp is a species of cannabis, yet has distinctly different qualities from psychoactive cannabis. Industrial Hemp has a THC content of less than 1%, whereas medical-grade cannabis has 20% or more, and low-grade has a THC content closer to the 10% range. Michigan needs to take advantage of this resource now.

We are actively building a network of hemp businesses and hemp consumers. MIHEMP recognizes that we need a strong business

network here within Michigan, but we also need to network beyond the walls of this state so that we can illustrate to our representatives the potential of the hemp industry. Linking people with similar ideas is key in building a strong community foundation for change. We are funded by membership dues, fund raising events, and donations. If you are interested in helping out or becoming a member, visit our web site at [www.mihemp.org](http://www.mihemp.org).

### Your Involvement

We often need help and that is when we call on active members. Active members go to meetings, get trained to work the booth, take the county resolution workshop, and engage in the issue when they can. They volunteer their time at events. If you would like to be an active member, please check the active membership box on the form. Non-active members will just be alerted about MIHEMP fund raisers and events.

Membership dues are \$10.00 per year for basic membership and \$15.00 for an enhanced membership.

Enhanced membership includes an “@mihemp.org” email address for 5 years (renewals will still be only \$10.00 per annum during this time) and both regular and enhanced membership includes access to a discussion board. Interested non-members may also subscribe to infrequent email alerts.

