

# HEMP: The new frontier

Hemp is one of the oldest known domesticated crops. Its uses included paper, textiles, and cordage for thousands of years. The oldest relic of human industry is a scrap of hemp fabric dating back to approximately 8,000 BC. Early American law required farmers to grow one acre of hemp for every five. The crops supplied the nation's need for textiles, sail cloth, and rope.

## LEGALIZED IN MARYLAND

The 2017 General Assembly passed legislation, making growing industrial hemp legal. This places Maryland at the forefront of the versatile and low-maintenance crop.

## HEMP vs MARIJUANA

Hemp contains very little of the psychoactive chemical, THC. This single difference is what most rely on to distinguish hemp from marijuana. Canada has set the maximum THC content of hemp at 0.3%. Medical marijuana produces anywhere between 5-20% THC on average, with prize strains tipping the scale at 25-30% THC.

## HEMP USES

Hemp is a renewable raw material that can replace plastics, organic body care products, textiles, biofuels, construction materials, and even batteries. Hemp Industries Association estimated in 2015 that the total retail value of all hemp products sold in the U.S. at \$620 million. None of the raw materials were grown domestically.