SEED CONNECT

Template: Cannabis Grow Operation Carbon Footprint Checklist

Generated: 12/9/2025

Based on Article: "Assessing the Carbon Footprint of Cannabis Grow Operations"
Website: https://theseedconnect.com

A step-by-step checklist for assessing and reducing the carbon footprint of cannabis grow operations.

Checklist Items:

- [ ] **1. Collect Energy Data**
  Request and compile 12 months of electricity utility bills tied to the cultivation space to establish the baseline energy usage.
  Reference Section: Prerequisites: What You'll Need to Assess a Grow's Carbon Footprint

- [ ] **2. Inventory Equipment**
  Create a detailed inventory of all equipment used in the grow operation, including wattage, quantity, and estimated daily runtime for each device.
  Reference Section: Prerequisites: What You'll Need to Assess a Grow's Carbon Footprint

- [ ] **3. Identify Scope 1 Emissions**
  Map out direct emissions sources such as on-site fuel combustion, refrigerant leaks, and vehicle fuel usage. Document their operational metrics to calculate emissions.
  Reference Section: Overview: What Is a Carbon Footprint for a Grow Operation?

- [ ] **4. Calculate Scope 2 Emissions**
  Use utility bills to quantify electricity consumption and apply local grid emission factors to convert usage into CO2-equivalent emissions.
  Reference Section: Overview: What Is a Carbon Footprint for a Grow Operation?

- [ ] **5. Assess Scope 3 Emissions**
  Evaluate upstream and downstream emissions including those from purchased nutrients, packaging materials, and transport. Gather supplier data for more accurate metrics.
  Reference Section: Overview: What Is a Carbon Footprint for a Grow Operation?

- [ ] **6. Prioritize Reduction Strategies**
  Analyze which sources of emissions (Scope 1, 2, or 3) contribute the most to the carbon footprint and prioritize interventions that are most cost-effective.
  Reference Section: Identifying Hotspots and Prioritizing Reductions

- [ ] **7. Implement Energy-Efficient Practices**
  Adopt right-sized lighting and smart ventilation strategies to reduce energy consumption while maintaining crop quality and yields.
  Reference Section: Implementing Changes: Practical Projects with Step-by-Step Guidance

- [ ] **8. Monitor and Document Changes**
  Regularly track energy usage and emissions after implementing changes, documenting improvements and identifying further areas for reduction.
  Reference Section: Troubleshooting Common Issues

Page 1 of 2

- [ ] **9. Communicate Results and Learnings**
  Share findings and successful strategies with stakeholders, as well as document lessons learned for future assessments and improvements.
  Reference Section: Next Steps: Verification, Certification, and Communication

Page 2 of 2