

# GAP

## CONNECTIONS



## GAPC Certification Update

**GAP Connections would like to congratulate the 223 operations that have successfully achieved GAPC Certification in 2022.**

Monitoring Visits are still occurring and will conclude by late October. Reminders for those participating in the Certification Program:

1. Assigned auditors will be reaching out to growers 10-14 days prior to schedule a date and time for the monitoring visit. It is important to check your phone, voicemails, emails and texts during this time to make sure the auditor can reach you.
2. The Self-Assessment is required for all operations. This should be completed before the auditor arrives to the farm.
3. Growers should receive an audit report either by email or mail with 72 hours of your monitoring visit (depending on the method of preferred correspondence you included on your application). It is important to review this report in a timely manner to determine if any remediation is needed to pass. If you did not receive this report, please contact the GAPC office at (865) 622-4606 or email [info@gapconnections.com](mailto:info@gapconnections.com).
4. Remediation must be done within 30 days of the audit report being submitted to GAPC. Instructions on how to remediate any remediable issue can be found in the [Remediation Guide](#) and in the [GAPC Certification Compliance Guide](#).
5. Growers who have achieved Certification will receive a letter and a certificate by mail or email (depending on the preferred method of correspondence). Growers may also access the Certification Status report via the GAPC Grower System. Log in [here](#), find Certification, then find Certification Status on the Grower Dashboard.
6. After the Monitoring Visit, you will receive a short survey requesting feedback on the visit. We ask you to please participate in this survey to help us better the program. Growers will also be asked if you'd like a Certificate Gate Sign in the event the operation becomes GAPC Certified.
7. Tips for achieving Certification are emailed every week. Check your inbox or [click here](#) to view past tips.
8. The application period for 2023 will begin in January. Participants must submit an application annually in order to maintain Certification.

**Not heard from your Monitoring Firm and your visit requires worker interviews? Reach out!**

Keep in mind that operations participating in a Year 1 Full Audit and have hired labor require worker interviews. Operations who have indirect hired labor (FLC or H2ALC) are required to have worker interviews annually. It is important that workers are there the day of the audit for worker interviews to take place. If you haven't heard from the Monitoring Firm please contact them. [Monitoring Firm Contact Information.](#)

## GAPC Hemp Certification

### New GAPC Hemp Certification Launches in 2022

GAP Connections is excited to offer a new opportunity for Hemp Growers. The GAPC Hemp Certification program will focus on three main management areas: Crop, Environmental, and Labor Management. GAPC Certification increases transparency and gives growers an opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to producing a quality crop while complying with industry best practices.

The [2022 GAPC Hemp Certification Compliance Guide](#) contains the detail listing of GAP Connections (GAPC) Certification Standards, Certification questions, verification methods used during monitoring activities to verify responses to questions, and remediation processes if necessary.

If you would like to request an application please contact GAPC at 865.622.4606 or [info@gapconnections.com](mailto:info@gapconnections.com).



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