

# Nothing But Hemp will open first full-size store in Uptown, aims to franchise



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Nothing But Hemp, a company that sells CBD oil products, will open its first full-size store next week in Minneapolis' Uptown neighborhood.

The 800-square-foot shop, at 617 West Lake St., is set to open on Wednesday.

It's the second retail space for Minneapolis-based Nothing But Hemp, which opened a kiosk at the Maplewood Mall in November.

"It's been unbelievable," Steven Brown, Nothing But Hemp's CEO, said about sales at the kiosk. "We can hardly keep stuff in stock."

Brown said the Uptown store will sell 100 CBD products, including tinctures, bath bombs, vape pens, hemp clothing and more.

CBD is a chemical compound produced by the cannabis plant, but it contains little to no THC, the ingredient in marijuana that makes users intoxicated. Proponents say the products can relieve pain, anxiety, insomnia, acne, seizures and even cancer. Brown said that each employee of the store goes through a rigorous certification course so they can better explain the product to customers.

Nothing But Hemp's third location, taking over the former Ernie's restaurant in Forest Lake, is set to open in February. Brown is planning to open two more locations throughout the Twin Cities next year, and he's working with a lawyer to franchise the concept.

Other CBD stores are popping up around the Twin Cities as well.

The Pioneer Press reported on Minnesota Hempdropz, the metro-area's first edible-hemp store in Maplewood. Minnesota restaurateur Wally Sakallah announced plans this fall for Cosmic Bean Dispensary, a CBD coffee shop in Dinkytown. However, the Minnesota Daily reports that he had to restructure his business model after the Minneapolis Health Department raised questions about the CBD-infused drinks and food. The Daily reports that Sakallah now plans to sell the CBD separately.