

NEW SECTION

WAC DRAFT EMERGENCY COVID 19 RULES FOR TEMPORARY AGRICULTURAL WORKER HOUSING

This section is intended to protect occupants from COVID-19 hazards.

WAC 296-307-16102/WAC 246-358-002

(1) The operator of temporary worker housing under this chapter/part must implement the following steps to protect from COVID-19 hazards:

- (a) Educate occupants about COVID-19, how to prevent virus spread, and what to do if they develop symptoms.
- (b) Develop and implement a social distance plan for maintaining six (6) feet of separation between occupants when at housing sites which includes cooking, eating, bathing, washing, and sleeping.
 - (i) Sleeping Quarters:
 - (A) Beds and cots must be spaced at least six (6) feet apart between frames in all directions and arranged so that occupants sleep head to toe. For bunk beds, only the lower bunk on each bed may be occupied except for sleeping rooms occupied by single families; **OR**
 - (B) Beds and cots must be separated by a bed length, floor to near ceiling temporary non-permeable barrier (e.g., plexiglass, plastic sheeting, etc.) placed perpendicular to wall such that a 36-inch minimum aisle exists between the bed and the temporary barrier and occupants sleep head toward wall. Only the lower bunk on each bed may be occupied; **OR**
 - (C) An operator may implement other effective engineering and/or administrative controls to modify this requirement by incorporating it in the plan required and having it pre-approved by the Department of Health and/or the Department of Labor and industries.
 - (ii) Physical barriers such as plastic shields can be used for fixtures such as sinks where occupants may come in close contact for short periods of time.
 - (iii) Discourage people from visiting buildings or sleeping quarters that are not their assigned living spaces, to minimize cross-contamination in the case of illness.
 - (iv) Complying with subsections (1)(b)(i)(B) and (C) of this section you must ensure that:
 - Egress is not impeded;
 - Ventilation/air flow is not compromised;

- Barriers being used are to be disinfected at least daily.
- (v) The use of tents meeting the requirements of WAC 296-307-16147/WAC 246-358-077 for use at housing sites other than cherry harvest camps or other proposed temporary housing proposals may be approved after review by the Department of Health for the initial review and approval. Review of these temporary requests will be expedited.
- (c) Clean and disinfect surfaces.
- (i) Clean and disinfect common areas on a regular schedule, at least as frequent as required by this part/chapter;
 - (ii) Wipe down and disinfect surfaces that are touched by multiple individuals at least daily using EPA approved disinfectant or diluted bleach solutions;
 - (iii) Provide adequate supplies and instruction to occupants for cleaning and disinfecting of living spaces of dwelling units and family shelters. Occupants must be able to clean and disinfect frequent touched surfaces, bathroom, and cooking areas as needed;
 - (iv) Ensure adequate supplies of soap and paper towels at all sinks to allow for frequent hand washing. Portable handwashing stations or hand sanitizer can be provided in addition to required facilities.
- (d) Implement policies and procedures to identify and isolate sick occupants.
- (i) Suspect COVID-19 cases must be isolated with sleeping, eating, and bathroom accommodations that are separate from others unless the suspect occupant resides in a room with family members.
 - (iii) Confirmed COVID-19 cases must be isolated and only housed with other confirmed cases and must have separate bathroom, cooking and eating facilities from people who have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 unless the suspect occupant resides in a room with family members
 - (iv) The operator must provide food and water and monitor for safety occupants in isolation at the operator's facility or ensure that these services are provided if isolated at another facility such as a local health department quarantine facilities.
 - (v) Upon identification of suspect COVID-19 cases, the operator must contact the local health officer as required under WAC 296-307-16190 and provide transportation for any medical evaluation or treatment. Ensure individuals providing transportation have appropriate PPE.

(e) Areas where occupants with suspect COVID-19 exposure have been must be cleaned and sanitized according to CDC guidelines.

(2) Operators must revise their written TWH management plan to include implementation of the above requirements. The plan must identify a single point of contact for COVID-19 related issues. The revised TWH plan must be submitted to the Department of Health for the initial review by May XX, 2020. Failure to submit a revised plan will result in license revocation.

(3) Where the requirements in this section conflict with other requirements in this part/chapter, this section applies.

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