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**PART G**  
**FIELD SANITATION**

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**WAC 296-307-095 Field sanitation.**

[Recodified as § 296-307-095. 97-09-013, filed 4/7/97, effective 4/7/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17.] 050 and [49.17.]060. 96-22-048, § 296-306A-095, filed 10/31/96, effective 12/1/96.]

**WAC 296-307-09503 What does this section cover?** WAC 296-307-095 applies to any agricultural employer with one or more employees engaged in any hand-labor operations in the field.

*Exception:* WAC 296-307-09515 (handwashing facilities) and 296-307-09518 (toilet facilities) don't apply if your employees:

- (1) Are engaged in field activities for the production of grains, livestock, or livestock feed; or
- (2) Use vehicles, machinery, or animals as part of their field activities and, when needed, can transport themselves to and from toilet and handwashing facilities.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 RCW. 98-24-096 (Order 98-13), § 296-307-09503, filed 12/01/98, effective 03/01/99.

[Recodified as § 296-307-09503. 97-09-013, filed 4/7/97, effective 4/7/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17.] 050 and [49.17.]060. 96-22-048, § 296-306A-09503, filed 10/31/96, effective 12/1/96.]

**WAC 296-307-09506 What definitions apply to this section?**

**“Accessible”** means a maximum of one-quarter mile or five minutes travel time from the worksite.

**“Hand-labor operations”** means agricultural operations performed by hand or with hand tools.

For example: The hand cultivation, weeding, planting or harvesting of vegetables, nuts, fruit, seedlings or other crops, including mushrooms, and hand packing into containers.

*Exception:* Hand-labor doesn't include logging operations, the care or feeding of livestock, or hand-labor operations in permanent structures (e.g., canning facilities or packing houses).

**“Handwashing facility”** means a facility that meets the requirements of WAC 296-307-09515 and is approved by the local health authority.

**“Toilet”** means a fixed or portable facility designed for the purpose of adequate collection and containment of both defecation and urination. “Toilet” includes biological, chemical, flush, and combustion toilets, or sanitary outhouses. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 49.17.040 RCW. 98-24-096 (Order 98-13) § 296-307-09506, filed 12/01/98, effective 03/01/99. [Recodified as § 296-307-09506. 97-09-013, filed 4/7/97, effective 4/7/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17.] 050 and [49.17.]060. 96-22-048, § 296-306A-09506, filed 10/31/96, effective 12/1/96.]

**WAC 296-307-09509 What orientation must employers provide for field sanitation?** You must provide each employee with verbal orientation on field sanitation facilities. The orientation must be understandable to each employee and must include:

- (1) The location of potable water supplies and the importance of drinking water frequently, especially on hot days;
- (2) Identification of all nonpotable water at the worksite and prohibition of the use of nonpotable water for sanitation purposes with an explanation of the hazards associated with using nonpotable water;
- (3) The location of handwashing facilities and the importance of handwashing:
  - (a) before and after using the toilet; and
  - (b) Before eating and smoking; and

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**WAC 296-307-09509 (Cont.)**

- (4) The location of toilet facilities; an explanation that facilities are for employee convenience and health considerations; the necessity to keep them sanitary; and that using the fields, orchards, or forests isn't an option.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 49.17.040 RCW. 98-24-096 (Order 98-13) § 296-307-09509, filed 12/01/98, effective 03/01/99. [Recodified as § 296-307-09509. 97-09-013, filed 4/7/97, effective 4/7/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17.] 050 and [49.17.] 060. 96-22-048, § 296-306A-09509, filed 10/31/96, effective 12/1/96.]

**WAC 296-307-09512 What potable water sources must an employer provide?** You must provide potable water for employees engaged in hand-labor operations in the field, without cost to the employee. Potable water must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Potable water is in locations that are accessible to all employees.
- (2) Potable water containers are refilled daily or more often as necessary.
- (3) Potable water dispensers are designed, constructed, and serviced so that sanitary conditions are maintained. They are closeable and equipped with a tap.
- (4) Open containers such as barrels, pails, or tanks for drinking water from which water must be dipped or poured, whether or not they are fitted with a cover, are prohibited.
- (5) Any container used to distribute drinking water is clearly marked in English and with the appropriate international symbol describing its contents.
- (6) Any container used to distribute drinking water is only used for that purpose.
- (7) Potable water is suitably cool and provided in sufficient amounts, taking into account the air temperature, humidity, and the nature of the work performed, to meet employees' needs.

*Note:* Suitably cool water should be sixty degrees Fahrenheit or less. During hot weather, employees may require up to three gallons of water per day. Additional requirements may be found in the outdoor heat exposure standard in Part G-1, WAC 296-307-09740 Drinking water, which applies between May 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

- (8) The use of common drinking cups or dippers is prohibited. Water is dispensed in single-use drinking cups, personal containers, or by water fountains.

**“Single-use drinking cups”** means containers of any type or size, disposable or not, and including personal containers if the choice to use a personal container is made by the employee, not the employer.

- (9) Employees must be prohibited from drinking from irrigation ditches, creeks or rivers. Potable water must meet the quality standards for drinking purposes of the state or local authority, or must meet quality standards of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's National Interim-Primary Drinking Water Regulations, published in 40 CFR Part 141 and 40 CFR 147.2400.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050, and .060. 09-07-098 (Order 08-21), § 296-307-09512, filed 03/18/09, effective 05/01/09. Recodified as § 296-307-09512. 97-09-013, filed 4/7/97, effective 4/7/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17.] 050 and [49.17.]060. 96-22-048, § 296-306A-09512, filed 10/31/96, effective 12/1/96.]

**WAC 296-307-09515 What handwashing facilities must an employer provide?** You must provide handwashing facilities for employees engaged in hand-labor operations in the field, without cost to the employee. Handwashing facilities must meet the following requirements:

- (1) One handwashing facility with a tap and an adequate supply of water, soap, single-use hand towels, and either a basin or other suitable container for washing is provided for each twenty employees or fraction of twenty.

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**WAC 296-307-09515 (Cont.)**

*Note:* Nonpotable water must not be used for washing any part of a person, except as permitted by the local health authority.

- (2) Each facility has running water.
- (3) Each facility has a dispenser containing handsoap or a similar cleansing agent.
- (4) Each facility has individual single-use hand towels.
- (5) Facilities are maintained in a clean and sanitary condition according to appropriate public health sanitation practices.
- (6) Waste receptacles are provided. Disposal of wastes from the facilities doesn't create a hazard nor cause an unsanitary condition.
- (7) Employees are allowed reasonable time during the work period to use the facilities.
- (8) Handwashing facilities are near toilet facilities and within one-quarter mile of each employee's worksite in the field.

*Exception:* Where it's not feasible to locate facilities as required above, the facilities must be located at the point of closest vehicular access.

[Recodified as § 296-307-09515. 97-09-013, filed 4/7/97, effective 4/7/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17.] 050 and [49.17.]060. 96-22-048, § 296-306A-09515, filed 10/31/96, effective 12/1/96.]

**WAC 296-307-09518 What toilet facilities must an employer provide?** You must provide toilet facilities for employees engaged in hand-labor operations in the field, without cost to the employee. Toilet facilities must meet the following requirements:

- (1) One toilet facility is provided for each twenty employees or fraction of twenty.
- (2) You must ensure, at the beginning of each day, that the toilets are inspected. If any toilet facility fails to meet the requirements of this section, immediate corrective action is taken. Inspections are documented and the record maintained at the worksite for at least seventy-two hours.
- (3) Toilet facilities are adequately ventilated; appropriately screened, and have self-closing doors that can be closed and latched from the inside. Toilet facilities are constructed to ensure privacy.
- (4) Facilities are maintained in a clean, sanitary, and functional condition and according to appropriate public health sanitation practices.
- (5) Toilets are supplied with toilet paper.
- (6) Disposal of wastes from the facilities doesn't create a hazard or cause an unsanitary condition.
- (7) Employees are allowed reasonable time during the work period to use the facilities.
- (8) Facilities are near handwashing facilities and within one-quarter mile of each employee's worksite in the field.

*Exception:* Where it's not feasible to locate facilities as required above, the facilities must be located at the point of closest vehicular access.

[Recodified as § 296-307-09518. 97-09-013, filed 4/7/97, effective 4/7/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17.] 050 and [49.17.]060. 96-22-048, § 296-306A-09518, filed 10/31/96, effective 12/1/96.]