

Question of the Month

Electrical equipment and wiring that has been submerged or exposed to water must comply with the following: All breakers, fuses, controllers, receptacles, lighting switches/dimmers, electric heaters, and any sealed device/equipment (e.g. relays, contactors, etc.) must be _____. A) cleaned, B) replaced, C) repaired, D) dried out –

See the correct answer on page 2

Flood Damaged Equipment and Wiring

Recently, areas of Washington have experienced damage from flooding. The combination of floodwater and electricity can be very dangerous.

Have a qualified person disconnect power before you allow anyone to get near a submerged or recently submerged electrical system.

Rules - [WAC 296-46B-110\(2\)](#) require that all breakers, fuses, controllers, receptacles, lighting switches/dimmers, electric heaters, and any sealed device/equipment (e.g., relays, contactors, etc.) submerged or exposed to water must be replaced.

All other electrical equipment (e.g., wiring, breaker panelboards, disconnect switches, switchgear, motor control centers, boiler controls, HVAC/R equipment, electric motors, transformers, appliances, water heaters, and similar appliances) must be replaced or may be reconditioned by the original manufacturer, or by their approved representative.

Learn more on our webpage [After Floods & Other Natural Disasters](#).

Tools for Maintaining Your Certification

Electricians, trainees, and administrators have many tools available to keep their certifications in active status. Renew before you expire – online services make it easy!

1. Find classes to complete your [education requirements](#).
2. Make sure we can contact you – [Change your Address – Get a Replacement – Renew online](#)
3. Use the [Verify](#) tool to view your education credit, hours of experience for trainees, and lapses in trainee certification. Find trainee lapses under past and related licenses. If there none shown, there are no lapses.

Affidavit Deadline for Trainees who are not Registered Apprentices

From the expiration date their training certificate; trainees have 180 days to turn in affidavits for the previous 2 years. Affidavits received by L&I after the deadline are not approvable. For receipt of delivery, use certified mail. Find the mailing address and other instructions on the form: [Affidavit of Experience for Washington Electrical Trainees](#) (F500-149-000).

Employers must supply a completed affidavit to any trainee within 20 days of trainee's request. Any employer who refuses to supply an affidavit could receive citations. Learn about [reporting hours of experience](#) and check out [WAC 296-46B-942\(8\)\(d\)](#) for more information.

Safety Tip of the Month

This time of year, it is common to decorate homes and businesses with hanging holiday lights on trees, gutters, windows, etc.

Before you plug in your lights or extension cords take the time to inspect them to make sure they are in good shape.

When you plug them in, make sure you have good solid connections. If installed outdoors be sure to use GFCI protected outlets.

Have a safe holiday season!

NEC 334.12(B) Physical Protection of Type NM Cable in Damp or Wet Conditions

The interior of conduits installed outdoors is not a damp or wet location when used for physical protection of Type NM cables under the following conditions:

1. Cables emerge unbroken from a building interior, attic, or crawlspace and remain unbroken until terminated; and
2. Flexible metal conduits are not used; and
3. No conduit systems are longer than 10 feet or below grade; and
4. Sealants prevent air movement and conduits naturally drain.

Learn more about damp and wet locations – review definitions for “location” in NEC Article 100.

Rule Making Update

For almost a year, we have been updating WAC 296-46B-995 *Electrical Board – Appeal Rights and Hearings*. The rules governing appeals and the appeal process before the Electrical Board are confusing and out of date. L&I accepted a petition for rulemaking from the state’s Electrical Board to amend the rules for the purposes of clarifying, simplifying, and making the procedures for appeals to the board easier to understand and navigate.

We filed the CR-102 Proposed rulemaking on November 16, 2021, announcing a public comment period. A virtual/telephonic public hearing will be January 6, 2022.

Learn how to attend or submit written comments by viewing the [Public Hearing Information Packet](#) on our [Electrical Laws, Rules and Policies web page](#).

If adopted, the new procedures for appeals are expected go into effect April 1, 2022

Now Hiring Statewide – Become an Electrical Inspector Today!

Tired of not knowing where your next job will be? Fed up with not having a balance between work and life? Ready for a challenge?

We have vacancies state wide, come join our team: [Become an L&I Electrical Inspector](#).

Being an electrical inspector is a great job for people who like people. If this describes you, and you are a Washington 01 master electrician or Washington 01 journey level electrician who has held that certificate for at least 4 years, please consider a job as an electrical inspector. Find an application for an opening near you:

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/washington?keywords=L%26I%20electrical>

For questions, please contact: Jobs@Lni.wa.gov.

Ugly Picture of the Month: *If viewing this document online, click on the picture to open a larger image.*

There is a lot going on in this picture starting with no grounded conductor, line and load reversed at service equipment, no grounding electrode system, what else?

I am glad inspections are required to keep people safe from unsafe installations made by untrained installers.

Answer to Question of the Month

The answer is B – replaced. Check out WAC [296-46B-110\(2\)\(a\)](#), or find the answer in the article above.



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