COVID-19 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS IN AGRICULTURE:
Temporary Worker Housing Requirement Updates

Changes went into effect on January 8, 2021

Photo Courtesy of the WA Grower's League

Source: WA State Department of Labor & Industries

Disclaimer: This resource is for general purposes only. Mask selection also requires considering length of time spent doing work tasks, distance from others, & use of other safety measures. For more guidance, visit: https://bit.ly/WA-LNI-Which-Mask or find WA Dept of Labor & Industries Consultation services near you: https://bit.ly/WA-LNI-Consultation
Community Health Worker Visits
Community health workers are allowed to visit to provide education and share resources.

Update:
Community health workers are now required to be screened by the employer prior to entering housing sites.
COVID-19 Wellness Checks

- Doctor
- Nurse
- Paramedic/EMT

Update:
Registered and certified medical assistants are now allowed to provide wellness assessments overseen by a licensed healthcare professional or supervisor.
COVID-19 SAFETY IN AGRICULTURE:  
TEMPORARY WORKER HOUSING REQUIREMENT UPDATES

Increasing *Fresh Air* Indoors

**Update:** Housing operators should increase the amount of fresh air by:
- Bringing fresh air inside
- Moving old air outside
- Filtering air circulating inside

1. **Using HVAC systems**
   - HVAC systems can provide fresh & filtered air.

2. **Opening Windows**
   - Windows & doors can be opened to increase fresh air. Fans can be used to push old air outside.
What is an HVAC system?

Heating, Ventilating, & Air Conditioning

HVAC systems provide heating and cooling for air in homes & buildings.

This system works by bringing air in from the **outside** and filtering it to provide clean air indoors.

HVAC systems also move **old** indoor air outdoors so it can be replaced with fresh & filtered air.
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Requirements for HVAC Systems

If HVAC systems are used, operators should:

- Increase the intake of outdoor air
- Use MERV13 filters or greater*
- Use PPE when changing air filters
- Keep records of filter changes
- Perform maintenance checks each season
- Work with a professional building engineer or HVAC specialist

*Check with your system manufacturer or user manual before you make any changes to the HVAC system.

Remember: Ventilation is just one safety measure. We must also follow the other safety requirements to keep workers safe.
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Remember to follow all the workplace requirements for COVID-19 safety

COVID-19 Safety Training ✓

Maintain 6ft Physical Distance ✓

Frequent Cleaning ✓

Frequent Handwashing ✓

Personal Protective Equipment ✓

COVID-19 Response Plan ✓

Employers will provide these for you to use at no cost.
RESOURCES

WA Dept. of Labor & Industries

Ventilation Guidance for COVID-19

Consultation

Complaints
1-800-423-7233, Press 2, Press 2

Workers Compensation

Wage & Hour Complaints
425-258-6372

PNASH Center

WA Dept. of Health

Employment Security Division
509-574-0105

NW Justice Project
Guidance on benefits & services
Call or Text: 509-225-0026