

State of Washington  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
Olympia

Chapter .60 of the Codified

RULES,  
REGULATIONS & STANDARDS  
OF THE  
State Board of Health



SANITATION  
*LABOR CAMPS*

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Revised and Adopted March 11, 1960  
Amended May 27, 1960

## **Introductory Statement**

The State Board of Health recognizes the need for improving the level of health and sanitation in the labor camps of this state and is cognizant of the economic, social, and physical problems involved in the enforcement of minimum standards toward this end. The rules and regulations adopted by the State Board of Health on March 11, 1960, pertaining to labor camps are therefore to be liberally interpreted and applied toward an orderly and progressive improvement of the facilities defined:

## **Rules, Regulations, and Standards of the State Board of Health, Sanitation—Labor Camps.**

### **.60.010 Definitions**

(1) "Labor Camp": Shall mean buildings, structures or shelters together with the land areas pertaining thereto, housing or capable of housing 10 or more workers employed in agriculture, logging, mining, construction or like work. This shall not apply to facilities provided for railroad workers nor to those buildings, structures, and land areas defined as mobile homes, mobile home parks, tourist courts, motels, resorts, and like accommodations which are covered by other state laws or rules and regulations, nor shall it apply to year round housing provided for permanent employees on a farm. (Amended 5-27-60)

(2) "Dwelling Unit": Shall mean any facility which is used or intended to be used for living, sleeping, and/or cooking and eating.

(3) "Person": Shall mean an individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association or joint stock association and the legal successor thereof.

(4) "Health Officer": Shall mean the city, county, city-county or district health officer, as defined in Section 70.04.030, 70.06.020, 70.04.020, and 70.08.040 of the Revised Code of Washington or his authorized representative.

(5) "Refuse": Shall mean all putrescible and non-putrescible solid waste, including garbage, rubbish and ashes, except body waste.

(6) "New Construction": Shall pertain to any building or addition thereto constructed or remodeled after the date of adoption of these rules and regulations.

### **.60.020 Administration**

(1) It shall be unlawful and a violation of these regulations for any person to operate a labor camp in the State of Washington, housing ten or more workers or capable of housing ten or more workers, who does not possess a valid current "permit" or "provisional permit" as issued by the health officer in the name of such person, for the specific labor camp.

(2) Every "permit" shall be valid for a period not in excess of one year and may be renewed. Issuance, retention and renewal of this "permit" shall be contingent upon compliance with these rules and regulations as determined by the health officer. Failure to comply with these requirements shall be cause for denial or revocation after due notice and opportunity for hearing.

(3) The health officer may issue, or renew, a "provisional permit" for a period not to exceed one year, when in his judgment conditions warrant such action. (Amended 5-27-60)

(4) Applications for permits, or renewals thereof, shall be on forms prepared by the health officer and shall be submitted to the health officer at least 15 days prior to the operation of the camp and shall include such information as required on the application form. (Amended 5-27-60)

(5) No major changes or alterations shall be made to any part of the camp without prior approval of the health officer. All remodeling shall comply with new construction standards and when the extent of the remodeling is greater than 50 per cent of the present replacement value of the building, the entire building shall meet the standards of new construction.

### **.60.030 Water Supply**

#### **(1) Existing Construction**

(a) An accessible and adequate supply of potable water, at normal operating fixture pressure, during periods of maximum use, shall be provided in each labor camp.

(b) The use of common drinking cups or containers is prohibited.

(c) Hot and cold running water shall be provided for each central bathing, hand washing, and laundry facility.

(d) Potable water shall be conveniently located not more than 100 feet distant from any dwelling unit.

#### **(2) New Construction**

(a) Full compliance with .60.030 (1)—(a), (b), and (c).

(b) Running water shall be provided in each dwelling unit; except for sleeping dormitories, with adjacent central facilities, which are intended for use by a single sex.

**.60.040 Sewage and Liquid Waste Disposal—Existing and New Construction—**All liquid waste discharged from the camp shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the health officer. The disposal system shall be located and maintained where it will not create a hazard to the health of the camp occupants or to the owner or occupants of adjacent property. Where a public sewer is not available, an approved sewage disposal system shall be provided.



**.60.050 Plumbing—Existing and New Construction**

(1) All plumbing in the camp shall conform to the basic plumbing principles of Chapter .94, Rules and Regulations of the State Board of Health governing Sanitation.

(2) All cross connections, as defined in .54.180(1) of the Rules and Regulations of the State Board of Health are prohibited.

**.60.060 Refuse Disposal—Existing and New Construction**

(1) The storage, collection, transportation and disposal of refuse shall be so managed as not to create rodent harborage, insect breeding, or health hazards.

(2) All refuse shall be stored in clean, fly tight, water tight, rodent proof containers. Lids shall be kept on cans. Such containers shall be located not more than 100 feet from any dwelling unit. Sufficient containers shall be provided for the storage of all refuse.

(3) Racks, platforms or other devices for the storage of garbage containers shall be provided and so designed as to minimize spillage, facilitate cleaning, and prevent rodent harborage.

**.60.070 Rodent and Insect Control—Existing and New Construction—**Appropriate measures shall be taken to control rodent and insect infestations.

**.60.080 Location and Maintenance — Existing and New Construction**

(1) Labor camps shall be located on well drained sites and where adjacent facilities do not adversely affect the health and safety of camp occupants. They shall be so situated and maintained as not to create a health hazard.

(2) The grounds shall be maintained in a clean sanitary condition, free from refuse.

(3) Where sand or dust originating in the camp create problems, provision shall be made for stabilizing the soil.

**.60.090 Construction and Maintenance of Dwelling Units**

**(1) Existing Construction**

(a) Dwelling units shall be structurally sound and shall provide protection for the occupants against the elements.

(b) Dwelling units shall be constructed so as to provide privacy; and shall be clean and in good repair at each change of occupancy.

(c) Floors shall be constructed of planed, tight fitting lumber or the equivalent and if elevated, the space underneath shall be kept free of refuse, and shall not be skirted or used for storage.

(d) Each dwelling unit shall contain at least 70 square feet of floor space for the first occupant and at least 35 square feet of floor space for each additional occupant. At least  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the floor area of each habitable room shall have a minimum ceiling height of 7 feet and no floor space with a ceiling height less than 5 feet shall be counted.

**(2) New Construction**

(a) Full compliance with .60.090 (1)—(a), (b), and (c).

(b) Floors of all units not of rodent proof construction shall be raised at least 18 inches above the ground.

(c) Each room designed or used for sleeping purposes shall contain at least 70 square feet of floor space for the first occupant and at least 50 square feet of floor space for each additional occupant. At least  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the floor area of each habitable room shall have a minimum ceiling height of 7 feet and no floor space with a ceiling height less than 5 feet shall be counted.

(d) All dwelling units shall be provided with adequate storage facilities for occupant's possessions.

**.60.100 Ventilation**

**(1) Existing Construction**

(a) Every living and sleeping room shall be provided with adequate window openings to the exterior.

(b) Windows shall be openable to at least 45% of their aggregate area: windows and/or doors shall be arranged to provide for cross or through ventilation, except where there is some other approved device provided for ventilation, such as louvered wall vents.

**(2) New Construction**

(a) Full compliance with .60.100, (1)—(b).

(b) Every living and sleeping room shall be provided with window openings to the exterior, having an aggregate area of at least 10% of the floor area.

**.60.110 Heating—Existing and New Construction**

(1) When workers are housed during a period requiring artificial heating, all living quarters shall be provided with facilities for maintaining adequate heat, in such a way as to ensure the health and comfort of the occupants.



(2) Heating facilities shall be installed and vented, if necessary, in such a manner as to avoid both a fire hazard and a dangerous concentration of fumes or gases.

**.60.120 Lighting**

(1) Existing Construction—All rooms used by workers shall be adequately lighted.

(2) New Construction

(a) Full compliance with .60.120 (1).

(b) Where electricity is available, each habitable room in a camp shall be provided with at least one ceiling type light fixture and at least one separate floor or wall type electric convenience outlet.

**.60.130 Toilet, Handwashing, Bathing, and Laundry Facilities**—Existing and New Construction

(1) Every labor camp shall be provided with adequate toilet, lavatory, bathing and laundry facilities, separated as necessary for the sexes. Only water flush toilets or approved privies will be allowed.

(2) When dwelling units lack integral facilities; central toilet, handwashing, bathing, and laundry facilities shall be provided within 200 feet of all dwelling units being served. Where privies are permitted, they shall be at least 50 feet from any sleeping room, dining room, mess hall or kitchen.

(3) Toilets shall be provided in a ratio of 1 for every 15 occupants or major fraction thereof.

(4) Urinals shall be provided in the ratio of 1 urinal for every 30 males or major fraction thereof. In the case of trough urinals or toilets, 24 inches of length shall be considered the equivalent of one urinal or toilet. Urinals may be substituted for up to  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the toilets required for each sex.

(5) Lavatories shall be provided in the ratio of 1 for every 12 occupants or major fraction thereof.

(6) Bathing facilities shall be provided in the ratio of 1 shower head for each 15 occupants or major fraction thereof.

(7) Laundry facilities shall be provided in the ratio of 1 laundry tray or wash tub or other type laundry facility for every 25 occupants or major fraction thereof. Adequate clothes lines shall be provided.

(8) Where central facilities are required, the number of fixtures provided for each sex shall be based on the maximum number of that sex dependent on such facilities, which the camp is designed to house at any one time.

Adequate dressing space adjacent to bathing facilities shall be provided.

(9) The walls of rooms containing toilet, lavatory, bathing, or laundry facilities shall be well constructed with an interior finish of light colored, water impervious material, to a point above the level of splash and spray.

(10) The floors of rooms containing toilet, lavatory, bathing and laundry facilities shall be of water impervious material, smooth, easily cleanable, and sloped to floor drains connected to a suitable disposal system.

(11) All toilets, shower and laundry rooms shall be well lighted and ventilated.

**.60.140 Foodhandling Facilities**—Existing and New Construction — In labor camps where there is a central establishment provided for the serving of food, such eating establishments shall comply with the Rules and Regulations of the State Board of Health governing Food Establishments.

**.60.150 Beds and Bedding**—Existing and New Construction

(1) Sleeping facilities shall be provided each dwelling unit occupant and shall consist of a bed or bunk. Where mattress, blankets, and linen are provided, they shall be clean and sanitary when issued.

(2) Each bed or bunk shall clear the floor by at least 12 inches. Single beds shall be spaced not closer than 36 inches laterally. Double deck bunks shall be spaced not closer than 48 inches laterally. The top mattress of a double bunk shall clear the ceiling by at least 36 inches. The bottom mattress of a double bunk shall clear the bottom of the top bunk by at least 36 inches.

**.60.160 Supervision and Responsibility**—The owner or his designated agent shall maintain the camp in a clean and sanitary condition and in good repair. The owner or his designated agent shall familiarize himself with these rules and regulations.

**.60.170 Communicable Disease**—The owner or his designated agent shall exercise reasonable efforts to know of the presence of communicable disease within the camp and when such is suspected shall report this to the health officer.

**.60.180 Effective Date**—These rules and regulations are to become effective March 1, 1961. In the interim, compliance with these standards to the extent possible is recommended. Issuance of a provisional permit subsequent to March 1, 1961 will be contingent upon development of a plan and time schedule for compliance with the requirements of these rules and regulations which is acceptable to the health officer. (Addition 5-27-60)