

Water temperatures referenced in Oregon OSHA's rules

Division 2
Division 3
Division 4

Oregon OSHA's rules include requirements to ensure that workers are provided with **cold**, **cool**, **tepid**, **warm**, or **hot** water for drinking, bathing, hand washing, laundering clothes, etc. To help employers understand the differences between these water temperature terms, we have provided the following table as a guideline.

Water temperatures
referenced in Oregon OSHA's rules

**Oregon OSHA's
Water Temperature
Guidelines***

Requirement	Temperature Range
Cold	35°F - 65°F
Cool	65°F - 77°F
Tepid	77°F - 90°F
Warm	90°F - 98°F
Hot	98°F - 105°F

* Reference:
*The Measure of Man
and Woman: Human
Factors in Design.*
Henry Dreyfuss Associates.
John Wiley & Sons, 2002

Rules that include water temperature requirements include, but are not limited to:

General Industry

1910.141(d)(2) Lavatories.

(ii) Each lavatory shall be provided with hot and cold running water, or tepid running water.

Construction

437-003-0020 Toilets.

(1) ...and washing facilities which include wash basins, warm water and soap.

Agriculture

Field Sanitation:

437-004-1110(5) Potable drinking water.

(b) The water must be suitably cool and in sufficient amounts, taking into account the air temperature, humidity, and the nature of the work, to meet the needs of all employees.

Agriculture Labor Housing:

437-004-1120(8) Bathing, hand washing, laundry, and toilet facilities – General.

(a) Provide an adequate supply of hot and cold water under pressure for all common use bathing, hand washing, and laundry facilities at all labor housing and related facilities.

Potable water means safe drinking water that meets the bacteriological and chemical quality requirements in OAR Chapter 333, Division 61, Public Water Systems, Oregon Health Authority.

Website:
osha.oregon.gov

Salem Central Office
350 Winter St. NE
Salem, OR 97301-3882
Phone: 503-378-3272
Toll-free: 800-922-2689
Fax: 503-947-7461

