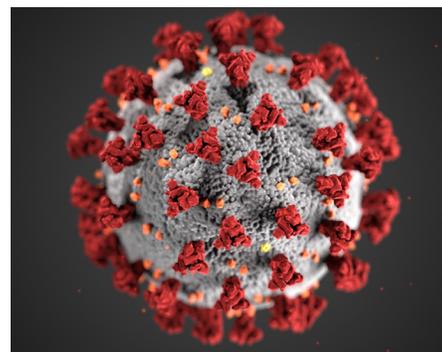


Oregon OSHA's COVID-19 Fact Sheet



TEMPORARY RULES REGARDING FIELD SANITATION, HOUSING, AND TRANSPORTATION RELATED TO AGRICULTURE

In just a few months, the coronavirus pandemic has had a radical effect on the lives of people worldwide. The most effective ways to fight the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19 are social distancing to deny it easy access to new victims, face masks to help prevent asymptomatic carriers from inadvertently spreading it, and enhanced sanitation measures to kill it where it may be lying in wait. Oregon OSHA is responsible for helping safeguard the safety and health of all workers in the State of Oregon, including agricultural workers.



Oregon OSHA has adopted temporary rules for agricultural workers to help ensure protection against the virus as they sow, tend, and harvest the food society depends on. These temporary rules require protective actions during activities where agricultural workers are in close proximity while in the field, housing, and transportation.

Temporary rules for field sanitation during hand labor operations and labor-intensive agricultural activities:

Enhanced Field Sanitation Practices

Attention Workers! Field Sanitation.
Your employer must provide:

Safe drinking water

- Immediately available and enough for everyone.
- Cool and kept in sanitary containers.
- Dispensed from a water fountain or into personal containers or disposable cups.

Toilets and handwashing facilities

- Your employer must allow you to use the toilet when you need it.
- Facilities must be located together and at the entrance/exit to field or in a harvested area, whichever is closer. They must not be more than a five-minute walk or one-quarter mile.

A toilet must be:

- Clean, private, and have toilet paper.
- Provided for every 10 workers.
- Sanitized three times daily.

Handwashing facilities must:

- Be sanitized three times daily.
- Include clean water and soap.
- Include single-use towels and a trash container.

Information
Your employer must tell you:

- The location of the drinking water, toilet, and handwashing.
- About the importance of:
 - Handwashing before and after using the toilet.
 - Avoiding heat stress and infectious diseases.
 - Reducing exposure to pesticide residues.
 - How these techniques reduce COVID-19 risks.

You have the right to file a complaint with Oregon OSHA if you do not have these things.
English: 800-922-2689 Spanish: 800-843-8886
Employers: The most protected and isolated from coronavirus facilities and apply to agricultural workers who do hand labor operations or other labor-intensive agricultural operations. You must display this poster if it applies to your operation. For more information, see Oregon labor poster OSHA 3319-01-0001.

The temporary rules require agricultural employers to appoint one or more “social distancing officers” among their field workers. They must also plan and implement work practices in order to ensure appropriate social distancing (at least six feet of separation) during work activities, breaks, and meal periods.

This temporary rule for field sanitation requires additional toilets and handwashing facilities from the current ratio of 1 toilet and handwashing facility per every 20 workers to 1 toilet and handwashing facility per every 10 workers.

There may be issues with the feasibility of obtaining enough units, and employers who can demonstrate that market availability prevents immediate compliance must provide as many toilet and handwashing facilities as possible until the 1 per 10 workers ratio is achieved.

The temporary rule requires toilets and handwashing facilities to be located at the entrance or exit to the field or in a completely harvested area, whichever is closer to the workers. In any case, such facilities must be no more than a five-minute or a quarter-mile walk.

The temporary rule also requires toilet and handwashing facility surfaces to be sanitized at least three times daily.

info

During the COVID-19 emergency, Oregon OSHA will update the mandatory field sanitation notice and training requirements to include information about the prevention of COVID-19. This updated field sanitation notice (available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)) **must be displayed to workers in the same manner as it was required before.**

Labor Housing



This rule may temporarily limit the ability of many agricultural employers to house as many employees as they normally do in their facilities due to changes related to bunk beds and social distancing. The rule also requires that employees with COVID-19 must be isolated and provided with food and water. As a result, some employers may want to use commercial lodging to meet these requirements. In order to provide clarity, the rule provides additional guidance regarding registration of temporary housing and the use of existing hotel or motel facilities.

Just like in the field sanitation temporary rules, this temporary rule requires employers to appoint one or more “social distancing officers” and to plan and implement housing operations in order to ensure appropriate social distancing (at least six feet of separation) between unrelated people.

This temporary rule for labor housing requires additional toilets from the current ratio of 1 toilet per every 15 occupants to 1 toilet per every 10 occupants. Employers who can demonstrate that market availability prevents immediate compliance must provide as many toilet facilities as possible until the ratio is achieved.

Portable toilets or chemical toilets must be sanitized three times a day, and plumbed common-use toilet facilities must be sanitized at least twice a day, or more often, if necessary.

This temporary rule prohibits the use of a bunk bed by unrelated people.

This temporary rule does not change square footage requirements for sleeping areas, but it does require that beds be separated by at least six feet, or by an impermeable barrier. Such a barrier must be at least the length of the beds and run from the floor to near the ceiling between beds. The barrier must not be closer to the bed than 28 inches in order to maintain emergency egress routes. If an employer finds it difficult to space the beds or to provide an impermeable barrier, then the employer is allowed to devise an effective engineering or administrative control to provide equivalent protection. Employers who devise an alternate protective scheme must have it approved by Oregon OSHA before implementation.

The temporary rule also requires common-use area surfaces such as laundry machine controls, refuse containers, door knobs, handwashing facilities, spigots, spigot handles, controls and adjustable shower heads, paper towel dispensers, handles on portable containers, and any other high-contact common-use items and surfaces to be sanitized at least two times daily. It also requires that the employer provide appropriate cleaning materials to enable occupants to keep private living areas clean and sanitary. There are many available sanitizing products that kill coronavirus. Please see the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), [Oregon Health Authority](#), and [Oregon Department of Agriculture](#) websites for sanitation best practices.

The current Oregon OSHA rules already require that a confirmed case of COVID-19 must be immediately (day or night) reported under existing Oregon Health Authority rules. This temporary rule provides a specific reminder about those Oregon Health Authority rules.

This temporary rule includes provisions related to the isolation of COVID-19 confirmed or suspected cases, including a requirement that the employer must ensure food and water is provided to those in isolation.

Transportation



This temporary rule requires at least 3 feet social distancing be maintained during travel in employer-provided vehicles. Face coverings such as cloth masks must be worn by all occupants, including the driver, for employer provided vehicles. The vehicle must be sanitized before each trip or at least two times daily in continuous use. Be sure to train all employees about the need to ensure social distancing, even when traveling in their personal vehicles.

The new temporary rules are effective:

JUNE 1, 2020