

# ***Field Sanitation for Hand Labor***

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## *Oregon-OSHA Requirements*

### *Division 4, Subdivision J: Work Environment*

Field Sanitation requirements include drinking water, toilets, hand-washing facilities, and employee notifications that must be provided for workers who do agricultural hand labor.

#### **Drinking Water**

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- Water must be potable
  - Employer provides a sanitary way to dispense water (through a foundation, with a spigot into single-use cups, etc.)
  - Employees may not use dippers or dip cups into common containers
  - Refill and sanitize common water containers as needed
  - Clearly label any non-potable water sources in work areas that are unsafe for drinking, washing, or for use with food
- \*\* For heat illness prevention rules, drinking water provided for employees when heat index is 80°F + must be cool or cold (between 35 - 77°F).*

#### **Toilets**

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- At least one toilet for every 20 workers (or portion of 20)
- Toilets (chemical, flush, biological, etc.) can be fixed or portable
- Where possible, provide separate toilets for men and women and label them using language or symbols easily understood by the workers
- Toilets must be within a 5-minute or one-quarter mile unobstructed walk for all workers
- There must always be enough toilet paper
- Each toilet seat must have a toilet paper holder or dispenser
- All toilet structures must have doors that latch from the inside, adequate ventilation and screens
- All toilet structures must be maintained in a safe and sanitary condition
- Where there are no separate urinals, toilet seats must be hinged and have the ability to be raised and lowered

#### **Hand-Washing Facilities**

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- Hand-washing facility must include an adequate supply of potable water, soap, and single-use towels
- You may not substitute chemical hand cleaners for the soap and water
- There must be one hand-washing facility for every 20 workers (or portion of 20)
- Hand-washing facilities must be next to the toilet facilities
- Provide a covered garbage container for used paper towels

#### **Postings & Printed Materials**

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- Field Sanitation Notice (orange poster)
  - Notice must be posted for workers who do hand labor on crops intended for human consumption. A good location to post the notice is at each toilet and hand-washing facility or where the workers congregate
- "Safe Practices When Working Around Hazardous Ag Chemicals" Booklet
  - Employers must provide a copy of this to all employees. Printed copy or mobile version available.

#### **Inform & Train Employees**

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- Employers must notify employees of the following:
  - The location of sanitation facilities.
  - Employees are allowed to use the facilities as frequently as needed.
  - Good hygiene practices to minimize exposure to hazards in the field (communicable diseases, exposure to pesticide residues, etc.).
  - Employees should drink water frequently, especially on hot days.
  - Wash hands before and after using the toilet.
  - Wash hands before eating and smoking.