

Housing: Your Rights as a Farm Worker

What type of housing does my employer need to provide?

Farm Worker **housing or camps** provided by an employer must meet standards set by state and federal law. Labor camps must be inspected and certified before workers move in. Inspection certificates should be posted where you can read them.

Camps must have:

- Adequate **toilet** facilities (1 per 15 residents);
- safe **water** for drinking, bathing and laundry;
- proper **heating** equipment for cold weather;
- one **shower** with cold and hot running water for every 10 persons;
- at least **50 square feet** of space **per person** in the **sleeping area**;
- proper doors, screens and windows;
- **cooking** and food storage facilities;
- no rats or mice around;
- one **stove** for each 10 persons; and
- garbage disposal.

There are many other important housing standards.



When should I call legal services for help?

If you're housed in dirty, dangerous or inadequate camps by an employer, call: **Columbia Legal Services** or the **Northwest Justice Project Farm Worker Unit**.

Labor camp housing is your home. You have a right to receive visitors at your camp. If visitors are denied entry to see you, contact **Columbia Legal Services** or the **Northwest Justice Project Farm Worker Unit**.

If an employer providing housing threatens to evict you, you may need legal help. You can't be physically forced to leave your home or labor camp without a signed order from a judge. Before you can be taken to court for eviction, you have a right to reasonable notice of when you'll be expected to move, and an employer must have a court order to compel you to leave. You have a right to a court hearing prior to eviction. Call the **Northwest Justice Project Farm Worker Unit** or **Columbia Legal Services** with eviction questions.

Northwest Justice Project, Farm Worker Unit:

Yakima Office:

510 Larson Building
6 South Second Street
Yakima, WA 98901
1-888-201-1018 (toll-free)
(509) 574-4234

Wenatchee Office:

300 Okanogan Avenue, Suite 3-A
Wenatchee, WA 98801
1-888-201-1021
(509) 664-5101

Columbia Legal Services:

Yakima Office:

600 Larson Building
6 South Second Street
Yakima, WA 98901
1-800-631-1323
(509) 575-5593

Wenatchee Office:

300 Okanogan Avenue
Suite 2-A
Wenatchee, WA 98801
1-800-572-9615
(509) 662-9681

Tri-Cities Office:

418 N. Kellogg Street
Suite "F"
Kennewick, WA 99336
1-888-201-9735
(509) 374-9855

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