



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990

## News Release

SBOH 05-04

**For immediate release:** July 11, 2005

**Contact:** Lonnie Peterson, State Board of Health, (360) 236-4108

# Board of Health to Hold Hearings on Septic Rules and Chickenpox Vaccine Requirement

*Wednesday, July 13, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, 2300 Evergreen Park Drive, Olympia*

At its meeting Wednesday in Olympia, the State Board of Health will hold a hearing on proposed rules governing onsite sewage systems. After taking more than two hours of testimony in March, the Board asked for some changes to the proposed rule. The most significant change involves reverting to the minimum lot size restrictions in the current rule. An earlier proposal would have required larger lots for people who don't get their water from a private well. This hearing is on the new proposal. The Board is expected to adopt the rule at this meeting.

The Board will also consider adding chickenpox to the list of diseases against which children entering schools and child care centers must be immunized. The rule would require immunization or evidence of previous exposure to chickenpox for children aged 19 months through 12 years who enter child care centers or schools after July 1, 2006. The proposed rule would allow the Department to develop an implementation plan that could include a gradual phase-in of this new requirement. A phase-in would require future Board approval.

Other topics in the Board's agenda include the state asthma plan and wastewater discharges from cruise ships.

Copies of the agenda and related materials are available by contacting the Board of Health at 360-236-4110 or by visiting the Board's Web site at <http://www.sboh.wa.gov/>. The emergency and press contact number for the Board during the meeting is 360-701-2398.

###

The State Board of Health serves the citizens of Washington by working to understand and prevent disease across the entire population. Established in 1889 by the State Constitution, the Board provides leadership by suggesting public health policies and actions, by regulating certain activities, and by providing a public forum. The Governor appoints ten members who fill three-year terms. Visit the Board's Web site at [www.sboh.wa.gov](http://www.sboh.wa.gov).