



# Hearing Notice

## Public Hearings on Wastewater/Stormwater Discharge Permit Fees

from Ecology's Water Quality Program

**Workshops will begin at 2:00 p.m. on the following dates:**

### March 6, 2006

Ecology Headquarters Building

Auditorium

300 Desmond Drive

Lacey

### March 7, 2006

Ecology Central Regional Office

Waterfall Room

15 West Yakima Avenue

Yakima

### March 8, 2006

Ecology Eastern Regional Office

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room

4601 N. Monroe Street  
Spokane

### Background

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) administers state and federal permits to regulate wastewater and stormwater discharges into Washington's waters. In accordance with state water-pollution control law (RCW 90.48.465), all permit holders are required to pay annual permit fees. Ecology uses the fee money to help fund Ecology's wastewater discharge permit program.

Every two years, Ecology amends the permit fee regulation as needed to continue funding the wastewater permit fee program. Ecology is proposing to make the following changes to the permit fee rule, Chapter 173-224 WAC – Wastewater Discharge Permit Fees:

- Increase the annual permit fees for all permit holders by 3.38 percent for Fiscal Year 2007 (July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007) and 5.49 percent for Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008).
- Combine the existing fee subcategories for nuisance and noxious weed control into one fee subcategory and setting one fee amount that will cover one or both coverages.
- Create a new fee category for invasive moth control.

### Public Hearing Schedule

Ecology will hold a short workshop that will immediately be followed by a public hearing at the following locations, dates and times:

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Location</b>
March 6, 2006, 2:00 p.m.	<b>Lacey</b>	Ecology Headquarters Building 300 Desmond Drive Auditorium
March 7, 2006, 2:00 p.m.	<b>Yakima</b>	Ecology Central Regional Office 15 West Yakima Waterfall Room
March 8, 2006, 2:00 p.m.	<b>Spokane</b>	Ecology Eastern Regional Office 4601 N. Monroe Street 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room



Ecology will accept written comments on the proposed changes until 5:00 pm. on March 22, 2006.  
Comments may be sent to:

Department of Ecology  
Attn: Bev Poston  
PO Box 47600  
Olympia WA 98504-7600  
The fax number is (360) 407-7151  
The e-mail address for comments is [bpos461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:bpos461@ecy.wa.gov)

Following the public comment period, Ecology will review and consider all comments received. Ecology proposes to adopt the final rule on May 30, 2006. The rule would then become effective July 1, 2006.

The proposed rule language is available for review on Ecology's website at:

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/permit\\_fees/index.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/permit_fees/index.htm)

**For more information:**

If you would like more information about the proposed hearings or the proposed changes, or would like a copy of the file changes mailed to you, please contact Bev Poston at (360) 407-6425 or send an e-mail to [bpos461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:bpos461@ecy.wa.gov).

*If you need special accommodations or require this information in an alternate format, please contact Bev Poston at (360) 407-6425 (voice). Those with speech or hearing impairments may call 711 for relay service or 800-833-6388 for TTY.*

