Presenter

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Water Recreation Program Manager
Why and what to report?
RCW 70.90.190

- RCW 70.90 is the state law for regulating water recreation facilities.
- RCW 70.90.190 states:
  “Any person operating a water recreation facility shall report to the local health officer or the department any serious injury, communicable disease, or death occurring at or caused by the water recreation facility.”

- “Local health officer” means the county health department
- “The department” means Washington State Department of Health
WAC 246-260-121

- WAC 246-260 is the rule for regulating water recreation facilities
- WAC 246-260-121 states:
  "Owners shall:
  (a) Provide the department or local health officer with information requested regarding the investigation of any injury or illness associated with the WRF; and
  (b) Notify the department or local health officer of a drowning, near drowning, death, serious injury or serious illness associated with the WRF within forty-eight hours after becoming aware of the occurrence."
- "Near drowning" is being used less and less, and "non-fatal drowning" is the term widely used today
WAC 246-260-121 (continued)

• “Serious injury” defined as:
  “Any injury:
  (a) Requiring emergency service response where a person requires medical treatment as determined by the emergency medical response personnel; or
  (b) Resulting in a person seeking medical attention at a medical facility, hospital emergency room or admittance to a hospital.”

• “Serious illness” is not defined, but DOH is interested in:
  (a) Any Recreational Water Illness
  (b) Any other illness that required medical treatment
  (c) Any suspected/confirmed illness outbreak

• Not sure if you should report? Ask!
Reporting Forms
Forms for WRF Owners and Operators
Forms for WRF Owners and Operators (Continued)

- Simple one page form
- Will be revised in the future to meet the current needs
- Available from DOH and county health departments
- Fill it out and send it to health department within 48 hours
Currently there is no set form for reporting illness

DOH is working on creating guidelines for investigating WRF illnesses and outbreaks

In the meantime, you can work with DOH Water Recreation Program and waterborne disease epidemiologists when illness incidents occur
Injury Reporting Forms for Inspectors

**Water Recreation Injury/Death Reporting Form**

This form is for local health jurisdictions to use when investigating and reporting serious injuries and deaths that occur at water recreation facilities. Serious injury is defined in WAC 246-260-010(66). For guidance on completing this form, use the "Instructions and Rationales" document.

Send completed forms to the state Department of Health at WaterInformation@dshs.wa.gov. If assistance is needed, contact our Water Recreation Program at 360-236-3332 or www.dshs.wa.gov/watersafetycontact.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. General Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Investigation Date:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Investigator Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Investigator Agency:</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Date of incident:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Time of Incident:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Facility Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Facility Address:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Facility Phone:</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Facility Owner or Operator Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Date when the agency was notified of this incident:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Who reported the incident?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>II. Incident Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12. Was this impact injury or drowning?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Any underlying health condition that preceded and may have contributed to the incident?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Did the victim appear to be or confirmed to be intoxicated?</td>
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<td>If yes, what?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who provided the information?</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Was this the first time the victim used this facility?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Injury/Death Reporting Forms for Inspectors

• 9 page long form with checkboxes and spaces for narrative and sketches

• Updated (terms, questions, format, HIPAA)

• Fill out electronically or by hand

• Comes with instructions and witness interview tools (all available from DOH)

• DOH assistance available
Ultimate Goal
Why require reporting?

- Awareness of illness/injury incidents
- Provides platforms/guidelines for investigation
- Data collection/analysis
- Understanding how these incidents occur
- **Improve policies and improve public health!**
Quiz

• What law and rule require that injury/illness incidents be reported?

• What types of illness and injury must be reported?

• Who do you report it to and by when?

• Why is reporting important?
Questions?
For persons with disabilities, this document is available in other formats. Please call 711 Washington Relay Service or email civil.rights@doh.wa.gov.