

(3) Notification must arrive at WSDA no later than two business days after arrival of the shipment at the receiving nursery. Notification in advance of the shipment is encouraged.

(4) WSDA may approve alternative notification systems if the alternative systems allow the provisions of WAC 16-401-130 to be carried out.

### **WAC 16-402-130** **Hold requirement.**

(1) Tree and shrub nursery stock shipments from outside the state must be held separate from other nursery stock for a minimum of one full business day after notification is received by WSDA.

(2) WSDA will contact the nursery before or during the hold period specified in subsection (1) of this section if the tree and shrub nursery stock must be held for inspection. WSDA will conduct the inspection as soon as practicable.

(3) Unless the receiving nursery has been instructed by WSDA to hold the shipment under subsection (2) of this section, the receiving nursery may distribute the stock before the expiration of the hold period specified in subsection (1) of this section, if the disposition of the stock is fully traceable. Retail sale to cash customers is not permitted during the hold period.

### **For more information contact:**

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**Fax:** (360) 902-2094  
**Email:** [ccooper@agr.wa.gov](mailto:ccooper@agr.wa.gov) or  
[nursery@agr.wa.gov](mailto:nursery@agr.wa.gov)

Please visit our website:  
[www.agr.wa.gov](http://www.agr.wa.gov)

**Thank you for your  
cooperation!**

*Inquiries regarding availability of this publication in alternative formats should be directed to the WSDA Information Office at (360) 902-1813 or Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (360) 902-1996*

# **WASHINGTON'S NOTIFICATION RULE AND HOLD REQUIREMENT**



WAC 16-402-100 THROUGH 130

Washington State  
Department of Agriculture  
Plant Protection Division  
Plant Services Program  
Revised July 2015

# NOTIFICATION RULE

## What is it?

Washington State enacted the Notification Rule in the spring of 2005. The rule requires every Washington nursery to notify WSDA within 48 hours of receiving tree and shrub nursery stock from outside Washington. The complete sections are printed in this brochure.

## Which plants are included?

The rule applies to woody nursery stock, including woody forest and ornamental trees, shrubs and vines kept or grown for propagation, distribution or sale. Fruit, seeds and tissue culture plants are exempt.

## What do I need to do?

You are obligated to:

1. Email your invoice or packing list and USDA shield (if present) to: Plant Services Program Manager, at [nursery@agr.wa.gov](mailto:nursery@agr.wa.gov) or fax the complete information to (360) 902-2094.

2. After notifying WSDA, you must hold all woody plant shipments coming into Washington State for twenty-four hours to give inspectors time to look at the plants. To make the process easier, we can provide you with a fax cover sheet upon request.

We can assure limited delays in offering your plants for sale if you will notify us **at least 24 hours in advance of receiving shipments.**

## How do I comply?

Plant Services staff are often the first to learn of new diseases (such as Sudden Oak Death), insect pests (Asian Longhorn Beetle) and other problems. Your invoices or packing lists allows us to track the movement of plants that might possibly be infected or infested.

Once your inspector discovers that you have plants that might be affected, they can inspect them, notify you, begin controls and trace the problem to its source.

We hope this information will make shipping plants into Washington and complying with the new rule easy. Our intent is to control disease/pest outbreaks and still make shipping as smooth as possible.

## WAC 16-402-110 Definitions

"Tree and shrub nursery stock" means woody forest and ornamental trees, shrubs and vines grown or kept for propagation, distribution or sale, including bareroot, balled and burlaped, and containerized plants, liners, budwood, seedlings and cuttings. Fruit, seeds and tissue culture plantlets are not considered tree and shrub nursery stock.

(2) "Business day" means Monday through Friday, excluding state holidays.

(3) "Receiving nursery" means any nursery dealer within Washington state, including landscape firms and greenhouses required to be licensed as nursery dealers, that acquires tree and shrub nursery stock via interstate or international shipment.

## WAC 16-402-120 Notification Requirement

(1) Receiving nurseries for tree and shrub nursery stock imported into Washington state from any out-of-state source are required to notify the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA). Notification methods may include email, U.S. mail, fax and delivery service to:

**Plant Protection Division  
Plant Services Program  
WA State Dept. of Agriculture  
P.O. Box 42560  
1111 Washington St SE  
Olympia, WA 98504-2560**

**Fax:** (360) 902-2094

**Email:** [nursery@agr.wa.gov](mailto:nursery@agr.wa.gov)



(2) Notification must include the species of plant(s), quantities of each species, source of each shipment and the receiving nursery's contact information, including telephone numbers and e-mail address (if available). Copies of regular shipping documents such as load lists with this information are encouraged.