



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING
PO Box 9026, Olympia, Washington 98507-9020

October 1, 2008

TO: Salon Owners

FROM: Cosmetology Program

Department of Licensing's position on fish pedicures

The Department of Licensing has had the opportunity to observe the fish pedicure procedure. The purpose of this letter is to clarify the Department's position on this service.

Fish pedicures include the care for the skin and cuticles of the feet and therefore, fall under the sanitation and disinfection rules in WAC 308-20-110. Those rules require that all tools and implements be sanitized, disinfected or disposed of after service on each client. Due to the inability of salons to meet these requirements in regards to the fish, and to protect consumers from the possibility of infection and disease, these rules do not allow for fish pedicures in Washington State.

If you have questions or comments please contact us at (360) 664-6626. Or, you may send a fax to (360) 664-2550, or send written correspondence to the Department of Licensing, Business and Professions Division, Post Office Box 9026, Olympia, Washington 98507-9649.

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