GENERAL RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULES AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT MANUAL FOR

HEALTH DISTRICTS AND DEPARTMENTS

IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON



Ralph Munro

The Division of Archives and Records Management Approved and issued by the Washington State Local Records Committee

> Revised December 1999 Olympia, Washington

Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: ADMINISTRATIVE – BUSINESS OFFICE

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	<i>Affidavits of Publication</i> Record of publication of public health notices in newspapers or other media.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
2	<i>Annual Reports</i> Statistical and/or narrative reports sent to DOH, Board of Health, and other agencies documenting agency activity and programs.	OPR	6 years – unless specifid by a contract or agreement for a longer retention. Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Contact your Regional Archivist before disposing of this record.
3	Client/Patient Financial Assessments	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
4	<i>County Auditors Reports</i> Reports received from the County Auditor detailing current financial status (may be monthly or annual).	OFM	3 years or until completion of State Auditor's examination report	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
5	Daily Reports/Statistical Sheets Report of daily activities used for monthly and annual reports, or grant reporting. Also used for State and Federal audits.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
6	DSHS Billing Records Medical Assistance Remittance and Status Reports, and claim documents. Record of claims paid or denied by DSHS.	OFM	3 years after audit or expiration of contract, whichever is longer	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
7	Emergency Prescription Fund	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: ADMINISTRATIVE – BUSINESS OFFICE

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
8	<i>Fee Schedules</i> Schedule of fees charged for services.	OFM	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
9	<i>Health Education Program Records</i> Records of specific health educational and prevention programs offered by the agency to the public.	OFM	3 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
10	<i>Licenses Issued Register</i> Register of licenses issued by the agency.	OFM	Unti expiration of last license listed	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
11	Monthly Reports Statitstical and/or narrative reports sent to DOH, Board of Health, and other agencies documenting agency activity and programs. Also used for state and federal audits.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
12	Provider Agreements Agreements between the Health District/Department and Program Providers.	OPR	6 years – after termination of agreement.	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
13	Staff Development Program Files Reports and other records documenting the implementation of educational programs for staff education and development.	OFM	3 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
14	Statistical Reports Agency statistical studies and reports.	OPR	6 years – potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Contact your Regional Archivist before disposing of this record.
15	Substance Abuse Program Report to DOH Reports submitted to management monitoring the Substance Abuse Program.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: CLIENT/PATIENT HEALTH CARE

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND E	DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	Client/Patient Health Care Information All client medical records for examinating treatments, prescriptions and medicating correspondence, consdent forms, request or institutions outside the agency, and a client/patients medical history. For all p limited to: Alcohol Treatment Child Care Child Neglect or Abuse Children with Special Health Diabetes Treatment Family Planning Family Practice General Clinic HIV Immunizations Maternal/Parent – Child Health	ons, interviews, diagnosis, ons, laboratory reports, referrals, ests for patient files by physicians all other records pertaining to a	OPR	Clients/Patients 18 or older; 8 years after last treatment – see remarks Patients younger than 18; 3 years after patient's 18 th birthday or 8 years after last treatment, whichever is longer – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference RCW 4.16.350. The Washington State Supereme Court decision re: DeYoung v. Providence Medical Center has voided limitations of action and discovery previously provided by RCW 4.16.350. Contact your legal counsel and insurance provider for guidance on minimum retention policy for Client/Patient Health Care Information Records. The Washington State Medical Association is recommending 10 years after last visit, 20 years after last treatment of pregnant women and infants, or 5 years after a patient's death, whichever is longest.

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	Advice Nurse & Triage Logs Phone logs documenting questions and actions taken.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
2	<i>Alcoholism Screening Files</i> Logs of screening programs including test results, diagnosis, and recommendations.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
3	<i>Alcoholism Treatment Summary</i> Summary sent to DOH documenting Health District/Department activity.	OFM	1 year	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
4	Appointment Books and Registers Record of patients seens, health providers, and programs or services.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
5	<i>Cancer Patient Screening Records</i> Logs of x-ray, cytology, sputum cytology and other screening programs, including test results, diagnosis and recommendations	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
6	<i>Cancer Treatment Summary</i> Summary sent to DSHS documenting Health District/Department activity.	OFM	1 year	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
7	<i>Cardiac Screening and Suspect Logs</i> Test results, diagnosis, recommendations, and referrals.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
8	<i>Diabetes Screening and Suspect Logs</i> Test results, diagnosis, recommendations, and referrals.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
9	<i>Glaucoma Screening and Suspect Logs</i> Test results, diagnosis, recommendations, and referrals.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
10	Home Nursing Register Register of home nursing visits and level of care.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
11	Hypertension Screening and Suspect Logs Test results, diagnosis, recommendations, and referrals.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
12	<i>Medication Logs</i> Records of drugs dispensed in clinic operations.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
13	Participant Surveys Client surveys for assessment and research or operational evaluations.	OFM	1 year, or as per contract	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
14	Patient Eligibility Records Records used for determining patients' eligibility for State funded services.	OFM	3 years after audit	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Original copy held by DOH/DSHS

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
15	Pregnancy Test Log Statistical information pertinent to pregnancy testing.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
16	Referrals All types from private practices or other agencies unable to locate or refuse services.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
17	Vaccine Accountability Record Record of the disposition of vaccines.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
18	Vaccine Information Statements Distributed by Department of Health for further distribution to local private providers. Shown to parents of children being immunized. Form changes frequently and was previously known as the Important Information Statement.	OFM	Until superceded	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Original at DOH

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
19	Vaccine Reaction Report Form completed if a patient has a severe reaction to a vaccine. Superior	OPR	Patients 18 years or older: 8 years after last treatment. Patients younger than 18 years of age: 8 years after patient's 18 th birthday.	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Center for Disease Control, Atlanta receives a copy. DOH receives a copy. The Washington State Supereme Court decision re: DeYoung v. Providence Medical Center has voided limitations of action and discovery previously provided by RCW 4.16.350. Contact your legal counsel and insurance provider for guidance on minimum retention policy for Vaccine Reaction Reports. The Washington State Medical Association is recommending 10 years after last visit, 20 years after last treatment of pregnant women and infants, or 5 years after patient's death, whichever is longest.
20	Vaccine Sign Out Record Documentation of transfer of vaccines from agency to private physicians. Record includes form by which physician certifies that certain procedures will be followed.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

Disposition Authority Number: GS55-01C

ITEN NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
21	Youth Violence Network Reports Files documenting community based programs.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

SUPERSEDED

Schedule Title: NURSING ADMINISTRATION – COMMUNICABLE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	Animal Bite Reports Reports to health officers regarding all animal bites.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
2	Animal Treatment Records Treatment of diseased animals.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
3	<i>Biologics Inventory and Distribution Record</i> Distribution and inventory record of drugs used in disease control.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
4	Case Logs List of diseases reported.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
5	<i>Epidemiologic Records and Reports</i> Records and reports of disease outbreak, response, treatment menthods used, demographic, and diagnostic data, and other pertinent information.	OPR	6 years – Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Contact your Regional Archivist before disposing of this record.DOH may receive a copy of this report.
6	<i>Food Borne Illness Complaints and Investigations</i> Files of food poisoning complaints, results of investigations and action taken.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
7	<i>HIV Test Reports</i> Anonymous testing reports from the State lab. Contains no patient identification information.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

Schedule Title: NURSING ADMINISTRATION – COMMUNICABLE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
8	<i>HIV Testing and Referral</i> Screening and referrals. If patient receives services other than screening and referral, record becomes part of the Client/Patient Health Care Information Record.	OPR	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
9	<i>Investigation Reports</i> Reports of investigations such as Communicable Diseases and Outbreaks.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
10	Occupational Exposure to Communicable Disease Includes records of evaluation of exposure to blood borne pathogens, tuberculosis, and other communicable diseases.	OPR	Duration of employment plus 30 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference WAC 296-62-05207
11	Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Screening and Suspect Registers Record of screening programs including test results. If patient receives services other than screening and referrals, record becomes part of the Client/Patient Information Record.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
12	STD Case and Contact Register Register of infected patients and lists of contacts.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
13	<i>STD Case Reports</i> Includes diagnosis, disease stage, demographic data, location of infected patient, and other pertinent information.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	DOH receives a copy.
14	Syphilis Positive Serology Reports Reports initiated of received by Local Health Jurisdiction.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	DOH receives a copy and maintains registry.

Schedule Title: NURSING ADMINISTRATION – COMMUNICABLE AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
15	<i>Tuberculosis Cases and Contact Register</i> Register of active and inactive cases with lists of contacts.	OPR	10 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference RCW 70.28.020.
16	<i>Tuberculosis Screening and Suspect Registers</i> Register of screening programs including x-rays, test results, diagnosis, recommendations, and referrals.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
17	<i>Tuberculosis Treatment Summary</i> Reports to DOH on active and inactive TB cases in each county.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	DOH receives a copy
18	Typhoid Fever Carrier Records and Agreements Records of carriers of typhoid fever and agreements signed by them in regard to disease control.	OPR	Death plus 6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

Disposition Authority Number: GS55-01E

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	Dental Health Screening Files Records of screening programs conducted in the health clinic, local schools, and for other agencies. Includes diagnosis, records of consultations, and referrals. If patient receives services other than screening and referral, file becomes part of the Client/Patient Health Care Information Record.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

SUPERSEDED

Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: NURSING ADMINISTRATION – WOMEN, INFANT & CHILDREN

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	Appointment Register	OFM	3 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference: WIC Program Consolidated Regulations 7 CFR Ch. 11, Section 246.25(a).
2	Contract Administration Files May include billing requests, expenditure reports, check registers and transmittals, time studies, and any other financial and contractual documentation.	OFM	4 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference: WIC Program Consolidated Regulations 7 CFR Ch. 11, Section 246.25(a).
3	Endorser Cross Referencing Reports, Breastfeeding Reports, Outstanding Food Intsrument Reports, Participant Summary Reports	OFM	Until superseded*	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	*The contractor has the option to discard or retain these files.
4	Ineligible Patient Client Files	OFM	4 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference: WIC Program Consolidated Regulations 7 CFR Ch. 11, Section 246.25(a).
5	Paraprofessional Competency Certification Documents	OPR	4 years after termination	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference: WIC Program Consolidated Regulations 7 CFR Ch. 11, Section 246.25(a).
6	Questionable Food Instrument Reports	OFM	4 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference: WIC Program Consolidated Regulations 7 CFR Ch. 11, Section 246.25(a).
7	Statistical Summaries	OFM	3 years; Potential Archival Value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference: WIC Program Consolidated Regulations 7 CFR Ch. 11, Section 246.25(a).

Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: NURSING ADMINISTRATION – WOMEN, INFANT & CHILDREN

Disposition Authority Number: GS55-01F

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
8	Transfer/VOC Transmittals and Register	OFM	4 years	•	Reference: WIC Program Consolidated Regulations 7 CFR Ch. 11, Section 246.25(a).
9	Voter Reigstration Status Forms	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
10	Waiting Lists	OFM	3 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference: WIC Program Consolidated Regulations 7 CFR Ch. 11, Section 246.25(a).

SUPERSEDED

Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: NURSING ADMINISTRATION – MATERNAL/PARENT CHILD HEALTH

Disposition Authority Number: GS55-01G

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	<i>Child Neglect or Abuse Reports</i> Report documenting abuse or neglect of child or mentally retarded adult.	OPR	8 years after close of file For minors 3 years after the 18 th birthday or 8 years after the close of file, whichever is longer	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
2	High Priority Infant Tracking Sheets	OPR	8 years after close of file	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Program closed. Records to be kept until retention requirements are satisfied.
3	Maternal Referral Records Patients referred to or referred from a local health jurisdiction without patient contact.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
4	Passport Program Interagency Work Orders For DSHS foster care for children – assessments of healthcare needs.	OFM	Expiration of work order plus 5 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
5	Register of Cases and Treatments For all Maternal and Child Health Care programs including special needs children.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
6	Screening and Referral Records Screening, consultation, and referral programs conducted for schools, childcare facilities, and for individual children.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

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Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: LABORATORY

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	Clinical Instrument/Method Validation Studies	OFM	Life of the instrument/method plus 2 years.	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference WAC 246-338- 070 and Table 070(1), Published in 2000.
2	Clinical Lab Records Test requisitions or equivalent; Test records; Test reports; Quality control records; Quality assurance records; Hard copy of report, or ability to reproduce a copy, for all specimens referred for testing; and Discontinued procedures for all specialty areas.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Clinical Lab records must be maintained as described in WAC 246- 338-070 "Medical Test Site Rules – Records" and Table 070(1), Published in 2000.
3	<i>Water Reports</i> Analytical records including all raw data, calculations, quality control data, instrument logs and maintenance.		5 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Reference EPA Manual for the Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water, 4 th edition, section 8 of Chapters IV (Chemistry) and V (Microbiology).

Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: VITAL STATISTICS/RECORDS

Disposition Authority Number: GS55-011

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	Affidavit of Correction Authorization	OPR	PERMANENT – may be attached to the original certificate copy		DOH retains official copy.
2	Application or Request for Certified Copy of Birth or Death Certificate	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded.	
3	Birth Certificates	OPR	PERMANENT Copy – not filed electronically with the DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. Potential archival value – see remarks	See remarks	DOH retains the official permanent copy, except prior to July 1907, which may be available at he county level if filed. Pre-1907 certificates may be transferred to State Archives custody – contact your Regional Archivist. Copies of certificates after 1907 may be transferred to State Archives after filing with DOH – contact your Regional Archivist.
4	Burial/Cremation/Transit Permits – First Class City/County Health Districts	OFM	1 year. Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded.	Upon completion of retention may be transferred to the State Archives – contact your Regional Archivist.
5	Burial/Cremation/Transit Permits – Non First Class Health Districts	OFM	2 years. Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded.	Upon completion of retention may be transferred to the State Archives – contact your Regional Archivist.

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Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: VITAL STATISTICS/RECORDS

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
6	Death Certificates	OPR	PERMANENT. Potential archival value – see remarks	See remarks	DOH retains the official permanent copy, except prior to July 1907, which may be available at he county level if filed. Pre-1907 certificates may be transferred to State Archives custody – contact your Regional Archivist. Copies of certificates after 1907 may be transferred to State Archives after filing with DOH – contact your Regional Archivist.
7	Fetal Death Certificates	OPR	PERMANENT		DOH retains official copy.
8	Indexes to Vital Statistics Certificates	OPR	PERMANENT Potential archival value – see remarks	EDE	Contact your Regional Archivist before destroying this record.
9	Inter and Disinter Permits	OPR	6 years. Potential archival value – see remarks	See remarks	Contact your Regional Archivist before destroying this record.

Schedule Title: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	<i>Building Plan Approvals</i> Approvals of plans for new buidings and homes, and of plans for additions or alterations.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
2	<i>Closed Solid Waste Landfill Files</i> Records for closed sites.	OPR	PERMANENT – Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Contact your Regional Archivist.
3	<i>Condemnation Orders</i> Records of buildings condemned as being unsafe or otherwise not in compliance with local ordinances.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
4	Demolition Orders Orders for the demolition of unsafe structures.	OPR	6 years DE	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
5	<i>Establishment Register</i> List of business establishments within agency jurisdiction subject to periodic inspections.	OFM	Destroy when obsolete or superseded – Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Contact your Regional Archivist before destroying this record.
6	<i>Federal Housing Authority Inspections</i> Inspections of houses conducted by the FHA.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
7	Gas Piping Permits Permits to install gas piping. Includes piping diagrams.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

Schedule Title: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
8	<i>Inspection Reports</i> Includes dumps, recycling, landfills, incinerators, sludge, and other types of solid waste disposal sites.	OPR	PERMANENT	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
9	<i>Living Environment Inspections</i> Campsites, swimming pools (public or semi-public), spas, swimming beaches, farm worker housing, recreational facilities, etc.	OPR	6 years after the close of the facility or site	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
10	Ordinances in Effect City, county, state, and federal ordinances regarding buildings and property standards.	OFM	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
11	Parks and Recreation Facility Inspections Public facilities inspections.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
12	Perk Tests Per tests for public and private land to determine suitability for septic tank installation.	OPR	PERMANENT	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
13	Permit and Approval Summaries Summary record of permits and approvals issued.	OPR	PERMANENT	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
14	<i>Permits and Approvals</i> All other permits and approvals pertaining to buildings and property including but not limited to: animal shelters, stables, stockyards, camps (summer, labor, penal, church, etc.), boarding homes, dairies, food processing plants, hospitals, schools, nursing homes, homes for the aged, hotels, dormitories, resorts, schools, etc.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

Schedule Title: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
15	<i>Planning Department Recommendations</i> Reports, criteria, and recommendations from the agency to the Planning Department on health related issues.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
16	<i>Plumbing Permits</i> Permits to install plumbing.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
17	School Building Inspections	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
18	Septic System Approvals and Permits For the installation of septic systems.	OPR	PERMANENT	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
19	Septic System Lapsed Permits Files pertaining to permits issued but not used.	OPR	PERMANENT	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
20	Septic System Permits Disapproved Files pertaining to permit applications that were disapproved.	OPR	PERMANENT	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
21	Sewage Treatment Site Inspections Includes public and private sewage treatment sites.	OPR	PERMANENT	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
22	Sewer Inspections Public and Private	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
Page	e 21 of 38 Effective 12,	/17/99	ENVI	RONMENTAL HEALTH – B	UILDINGS AND PROPERTY

Schedule Title: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
23	<i>Solid Wate Landfill Permits</i> Includes permit applications, variance requests, plans, monitoring records, test results, and related correspondence.	OPR	PERMANENT – Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Contact your Regional Archivist.
24	<i>Solid Wate Transfer Station Files</i> Files pertaining to the approval of transfer stations. Inlcudes drop box plans, copies of permits, correspondence and related records.	OPR	PERMANENT	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
25	Water Supply System Approvals Public and Private Approvals and ongoing inspections of private and public water sypply systems, including sources, distribution systems, filtering, treatment installations, and water quality analysis.	OPR	PERMANENT	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
26	Water Well Logs Water well reports submitted to the State.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

Schedule Title: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – COMPLAINTS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND REPORTS

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	<i>Air Pollution Reports</i> Record of readings of air pollution levels.	OPR	6 years – Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Department of Ecology holds primary copy. Contact your Regional Archivist before disposing of this record.
2	Complaints Filed Files of complaints submitted to the environmental health division. Includes nature of report, record of investigations, and results.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
3	Complaints Resulting in Court Action Files of complaints resulting in court action or used as evidence in court cases.	OPR	6 years after completion of legal action – Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Contact your Regional Archivist before disposing of this record.
4	<i>Nuisance Report Log</i> Record of nuisance reports logged.	OFM	2 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
5	Vector Control Records Inspections for rodent and other types of pest infestations.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – FOOD AND DAIRY

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	Dairy Inspections Includes sanitation, disease control, bacteria counts, animal infections, radioactivity levels in products, and records of disease.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
2	<i>Food and Beverage Service Permits</i> Includes permits and other files related to premises.	OPR	6 years after the close of the establishment	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
3	Food and Beverage Service Permits – Temporary	OFM	6 years after expiration of temporary permit	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
4	Food and Beverage Service Permits Denied P Related applications, correspondence, etc. P	OPR	1 year	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
5	<i>Food Borne Illness Complaints and Investigation Files</i> Records of investigations and actions.	OPR	6 years after resolution	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
6	Food Handler Licenses	OFM	Until license expieres or us superseded	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
7	<i>Food Inspections</i> Inspections and lab analysis of food in processing plants, retail establishments, restaurants, etc.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

Schedule Title: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – FOOD AND DAIRY

Disposition Authority Number: GS55-01L

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
	<i>Meat Inspections</i> Includes carcass inspection reports, meat plant inspection reports, and meat vehicle inspection reports.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

SUPERSEDED

Schedule Applicable to: HEALTH DISTRICTS/DEPARTMENTS Schedule Title: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – HAZARDOUS WASTE

ITEM NO.	SERIES TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	OPR or OFM	RETENTION PERIOD FOR PRIMARY RECORD COPY	RETENTION PERIOD FOR OTHER COPIES	DISPOSITION/ REMARKS
1	<i>Business Audits</i> Documentation of visits to businesses responsible for creating hazardous waste.	OPR	6 years – Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Contact your Regional Archivist before disposing of this record.
2	<i>Chemical Site Inspections</i> Inspections of sites which may be potential environmental or health hazards.	OPR	6 years – Potential archival value – see remarks	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	Contact your Regional Archivist.
3	<i>Waste Collectors Audit</i> Documentation of inspections of hazardous wate collectors.	OPR	6 years	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	
4	Waste Permits Public and private agencies applications, approvals, correspondence, etc., for disposal of contaminated soils and other industrial wate. Used to verify materials being disposed of.	OPR	PERMANENT	Destroy when obsolete or superseded	

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MEMORANDUM

May 18, 2000

- TO: Local Government Health Districts and Departments Records Managers/Coordinators
- FROM: The Washington State Local Records Committee
- SUBJ: Addition to the Local Government Health Districts and Departments General Records Retention Schedule and Records Management Manual

Included with this memo is GS50-25, Social Services, which was inadvertently left out of the above referenced manual. Please add it to your copy of the manual

We apologize for the inconvenience of confusion this may have caused.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Wagner at (360) 586-4901 or email at jeanne@secstate.wa.gov.

LRC:jmw

Enclosures

GLOSSARY

ACCESSION

- 1. The act and procedures involved in a transfer of legal title and the taking of records or papers into the physical custody of an archival agency.
- 2. The materials involved in such a transfer of custody.

ACTIVE RECORDS

Records that are referred to more than once per month per file drawer. Active records should be maintained in the office.

ADMINISTRATIVE FILES

Records documenting the operation, management, and administration of an office; usually distinguished from program records that relate to the office's primary function.

ADMINISTRATIVE VALUE

The usefulness of a specific records series for the administration of current business.

ALPHABETICAL FILING

Arrangement of records according to the alphabet; used mainly for files referred to by name or topic.

ARCHIVES

- 1. The non-current records of an organization or institution preserved because of their permanent, continuing value.
- 2. The agency responsible for selecting, preserving, and making available archival materials.
- 3. The building where such materials are located.

CASE FILES - see Project Files

CD-ROM - see Compact Disk, or Read-Only Memory

CENTRALIZED FILES

The files of several offices of organizational units physically and/or functionally centralized and supervised in one location.

CHRONOLOGICAL FILING

The filing of documents in sequence by date.

CODING

Marking a file code on the document to be filed.

COMPACT DISK

A machine-readable medium used to reproduce records for rapid retrieval.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OR RECORDS

Information that may not be released without the permission of the patient

or client, etc.
CONVENIENCE FILES

Extra copies of records created and kept for quick reference.

CORRESPONDENCE

Any format of information that is an addressed, written communication to or from an agency or its employees.

CUSTODY (OF RECORDS)

The guardianship of records that includes both physical possession and legal title.

CUT-OFF

The termination of files at regular intervals to permit their transfer, retirement, or disposal in complete blocks. Under this process, a file is terminated regularly at the end of a specified period of time or event, and a new file of the same records series is established.

DECENTRALIZED FILES

Files that are created, used, maintained and controlled in or near the office of record.

DISPOSITION

Any manner or method of changing the custody, location, or physical state of records. Includes transfer, microfilming, duplication or destruction.

DISPOSITION AUTHORITY NUMBER (DAN)

The control number assigned to the records retention schedule by the Local Records Committee.

ELECTRONIC RECORDS

Records created and/or stored by electronic means, usually on computer systems.

ESSENTIAL RECORDS

Records essential to:

- 1. The resumption and/or continuation of operations;
- 2. The re-creation of the legal and financial status of the agency; or
- 3. The fulfillment of obligations to local, state, or federal governments, or outside interests.

FILE CLASSIFICATION - See Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary

FILE PLAN

A listing of all records series held at each file station, including retention periods, file codes, methods of filing, and disposition instructions.

FISCAL VALUE

The usefulness of a specific records series for the documentation of an agency's financial transactions and obligations.

GEOGRAPHICAL FILING

Arrangement of records according to geographical area, alphabetically.

GUIDE

A card or tab divider used in files to identify sections and/or sub-sections of the file. Guides provide physical support and aid in filing and finding individual records.

HISTORICAL VALUE

The usefulness of a specific records series for historical research. Typically, 1% to 5% of an agency's total records have historical value.

IMAGING

The act of reproducing records in digital format, on optical or magnetic media.

INACTIVE RECORDS

Records with a reference rate of less than one search per file drawer per month. Such records may be transferred to a records center or the State Archives, or may be destroyed as provided by a records retention schedule approved by the Local Records Committee.

INVENTORY

- 1. A descriptive list of each records series in an office or file station, including such data as title, inclusive dates, quantity, arrangement, relationships to other series, and description of significant subject content.
- 2. A survey of records conducted prior to disposition or the development of a records retention schedule.

LEGAL VALUE

The usefulness of specific records series for documentation of an agency's legally enforceable rights and obligations.

LOCAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

The body established by the Public Records Act, RCW 40.14.070, to review and approve schedules for the retention and disposition of all local government records. It includes the State Archivist and one representative each from the Offices of the State Attorney General and State Auditor.

MACHINE-READABLE RECORDS - See Electronic Records & Optical Disc

MATERIAL WITH NO RETENTION VALUE

Material that does not need to be filed or that may be destroyed after a short retention. This includes drafts, worksheets, routine replies, telephone messages, blank forms, publications, and extra copies of documents created for convenience or public distribution (see Non-Records Schedule).

MICROFILM

- 1. A high-resolution photographic film used to record reduced-size images from original records.
- 2. The act of recording micro-photographs on film.

NUMERICAL FILING

Arrangement of records in sequence according to document number.

OFM (Office Files and Memoranda)

A public records classification provided by RCW 40.14 which identifies records that only have administrative value.

OPR (Official Public Record)

A public records classification provided by RCW 40.14 which identifies records that have significant legal or fiscal value.

OPTICAL DISK

A machine-readable medium used to reproduce records for rapid retrieval.

OUT-CARD

A guide card used to indicate that records have been taken from the file. The out-card should identify the specific item/file, date, and name of the person temporarily holding the record.

PERMANENT RECORDS

Records which have sufficient legal, fiscal, and/or historical value, to be retained indefinitely.

PRIMARY FILING CLASSIFICATION

The most general category under which records can be sorted and arranged for filing.

PRIMARY RECORD COPY

The most important or original copy of the record regardless of media.

PROJECT (CASE) FILES

Groups of documents that pertain to a particular action, event, person, or place. May consist of correspondence, form records, memoranda, or a combination of such records.

PROPRIETARY RECORDS

Records often containing confidential or highly sensitive information that may require shredding at the end of the legal retention period to prevent the disclosure of confidential information.

PURGING - See Screening

READ-ONLY MEMORY (ROM)

Electronic record storage systems that allow for research or "reading" access but protect the record from additional entries or alterations.

READING (DAY) FILE

A file of extra copies of outgoing correspondence arranged in chronological order.

RECORDS

Papers (reports, correspondence, legal documents, etc.), photographs, magnetic tape, microfilm, sound recordings, maps, drawings, or other documents, regardless of physical form or characteristics, and including all copies thereof, either organized or received by an institution.

RECORDS CENTER

A low-cost facility for the organized and controlled storage, maintenance, retrieval, and disposition of inactive or non-current records.

RECORDS COORDINATOR - see Records Officer

RECORDS MANAGEMENT

The management function concerned with the efficient, systematic control of records from their creation to their ultimate disposition.

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RECORDS OFFICER

The individual responsible for an agency's records management procedures, including retention scheduling, files organization, records storage, and destruction.

RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE

A listing and schedule of records series by office, indicating for each series the full records series title, function/purpose, location of official copy, retention period in the office and/or records center, and whether or not the series is to be microfilmed, destroyed, and/or transferred to the Archives for permanent retention.

RECORDS SERIES

A group of records, performing a specific function, which is used as a unit, filed as a unit and may be transferred or destroyed as a unit. A records series may consist of a single type of form or a number of different types of records which are filed together to document a specific function.

REFERENCE FILES

Publications, books, periodicals, catalogs, bulletins, reports, maps, theses, tapes, films, photographs, and other materials that are needed as informational resources but are not part of the main body of files.

RETENTION PERIOD

The period of time from when the record is created to the time it is disposed of.

ROM - see Read-Only Memory

SCREENING

Removal of individual papers or folders from a group of records, usually to permit disposal of parts of the file, and retention or transfer of the rest. Also known as purging or weeding.

SECONDARY FILING CLASSIFICATION

The second most general class of filing category under which records can be sorted or arranged for filing; subsidiary to primary classification.

SUBJECT FILE

A file in which documents are arranged alphabetically by general subject or topic.

SUSPENSE FILE

A file in which documents are arranged chronologically by a future date of recall, to remind the user of future tasks and events. Also known as a tickler file.

TERTIARY FILING CLASSIFICATION

The least general, most specific filing category under which records can be sorted and arranged for filing; subsidiary to secondary classification.

TICKLER FILE: see Suspense File

TRANSACTIONAL FILES

Records documenting the unique daily transactions or activities of an office which distinguish its primary functions.

A file of routine correspondence and other records with short-term value. Its retention period is limited to the interval required for completion of specific actions covered by individual pieces of correspondence.

TRANSMITTAL

Documentation authorizing the disposal, transfer to inactive storage, or transfer to archival storage of public records.

VITAL RECORDS

As defined in RCW 70.58.005(2) means records of birth, death, fetal death, marriage, dissolution, annulment, and legal separation, as maintained under the supervision of the state registrar for vital statistics.

WORKING FILE

A file of rough notes, calculations, or preliminary drafts that are assembled and used in the preparation or analysis of other documents; usually retained in desk files or filed separately until project completion.

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