



Faulty water heaters and kids don't mix

Sign up for a safety inspection

Did you know that the water heater in your childcare facility has the explosive potential to demolish a building, or even lift it from its foundation?

Each year, our boiler inspectors locate hundreds of boilers and pressure vessels, including hot-water heaters, operating without a required safety inspection and in hazardous operating condition.

Washington state law requires biennial safety inspections for water heaters located in places of public assembly, such as restaurants, churches, schools, and childcare centers.

(RCW 70.79.090 and WAC 296-104-010).

Why the requirement? Here's an example:

In July 2001, a water tank in a Burien store suddenly exploded, injuring three people and causing significant property damage. The force of the blast was so intense it sent the water heater through the roof and 400 feet in the air, before landing in the parking lot of a nearby restaurant. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured from the blast, but a proper safety inspection of the safety relief device could have prevented the accident.

- **Watch the Discovery Channel's *Mythbuster* videos:**

Go to: www.youtube.com and type in "**Mythbuster water heater explosion**" in the search box.

See what happens when the TV program's producers turn the pressure up on an ordinary water heater. *You won't believe the explosion they create!*

- **Then ... please schedule a water heater inspection for your facility:**

To find an inspector in your area:

Go to: www.Boilers.Lni.wa.gov and click on **L&I Boiler Inspectors**.
or Call L&I's Boiler Program: **360-902-6400**

Fees and more information:

Fees typically range from \$30 to \$100, and are dedicated to covering the cost of the service. The "Certificate of Inspection" you receive for passing our inspection shows that you have met the state's requirements for water heaters located in places of public assembly, such as restaurants, churches, schools, and child care centers. (See above reference to state law and L&I rule.)

For more information: Call 360-902-6400 or go to www.Boilers.Lni.wa.gov