



Below is direct from **WAC 16-557-041** which discusses assessment withholdings, as well as form and timelines for submission of such assessments to the Washington Asparagus Commission. The same guidelines will be followed for the 2023 season as were utilized in 2022.

**Method for payment and collection of assessments.** *Effective with the growing season of 1991, the following procedure is established for the reporting and paying of assessments levied pursuant to RCW [15.65.410](#) and WAC [16-557-040](#):*

*(1) All first handlers of asparagus for resale or for processing shall withhold the amount of the assessment from their remittance to growers and transmit same to the commission. All such assessments accumulated will be due and payable to the commission within thirty days of collection. With the submission of the assessments, a report listing the name, address, pounds handled or purchased, and amount deducted or collected for each producer shall be submitted to the commission on forms provided by the commission.*

*(2) All growers selling asparagus other than to first handlers for resale or processing, whether selling direct or through brokers, and including all sales at retail, shall pay the assessment directly to the commission, within thirty days of sale of such product.*

*(3) Any assessments not paid by September 30th shall be accompanied by an administrative fee of 10% as provided in RCW [15.65.440](#) of the act.*

**The Washington asparagus industry has developed the below information on comply with the above information:**

- 1) The attached form was adopted for use by “first handlers” as the form on which to submit assessment reports. A column is included for grower phone numbers. This information would be extremely helpful to Board members as they try to contact growers in their respective districts. Grower addresses are required information. At the discretion of the individual first handler, required information may be submitted in the format of your choice.
- 2) State code makes all assessments “due and payable to the Commission within thirty (30) days of collection.” In order to establish uniformity of remittance from all first handlers, and to reduce the number of times per year that remittances would need to be made, the Commission adopted the operating policy that “assessments are due within 30 days after the end of the month in which they are withheld.” In the past, some revenues have not been received timely per these instructions. It is the intent of the Commission to diligently pursue, by all means at its disposal, timely collection of assessments during the 2023 season
- 3) The Commission will be receiving the assessments in a locked mail box at its home office and processing the assessments through secure protocols.

**THEREFORE, PLEASE MAIL ALL ASSESSMENT REMITTANCES TO:**

**Washington Asparagus Commission  
2621 Ringold Road  
Eltopia, WA 99330**

**Please make sure your remittance is paid to the order of: “Washington Asparagus Commission”**

The assessment for 2023 remains one percent of the gross receipts at the first point of sale. It is the desire of the Commission that the process of assessment collection be judicious while of minimum clerical burden to the first handlers. We hope the above outlined procedures meet that end.

Please contact Cheryll at the Commission office at (509) 266-4303 or [cheryll@centurytel.net](mailto:cheryll@centurytel.net) if there are questions on this matter.