

# AN AGENCY JUST SHOWED UP

*Now What?*

## Washington Small Fruit Conference

*Dan Fazio  
Director*



An Inspector  
Shows Up at the  
Field.



# Where are they from?

## Likely to make prior contact

- State L&I\*
- State ESD\*
- State WSDA\*
- State Fish and Wildlife\*

## Likely to just show up

- Federal DOL
- Federal EPA
- Federal ICE
- State Ecology\*
- Private Outreach workers\*\*
- State DOH\*\*

\* State agencies are required to obtain permission (or have a search warrant) prior to entering private property.

\*\* These are housing audits.

# What do they want?

- Fed DOL: wage and hour audits.
- Fed ICE: deliver I-9 subpoena, execute warrant.
- Fed EPA or State Ecology: most likely a spill, complaint, or similar.
- State L&I: You should ask.
- ESD: U/I or H-2A worker visit.
- DOH/Outreach workers: Housing, worker rights.

# How do you respond?

How you respond depends on how prepared you are:

- ✓ Do you have signs asking visitors to report to the office?
- ✓ Do you have a visitor policy?
- ✓ Do your employees know what the policy is?



# Recommendations

Take the temperature of the inspector.

Can you establish rapport?

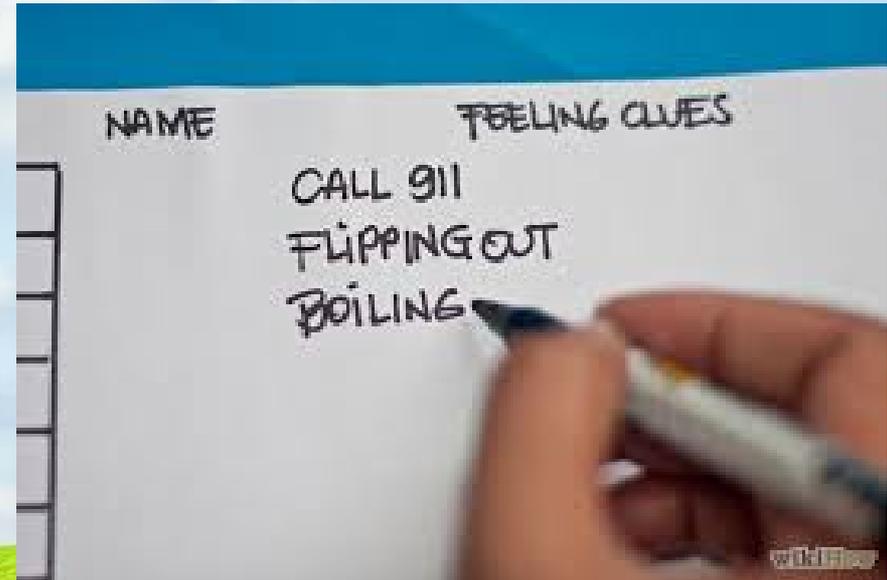
Ask for an opening conference.

Prepare a letter to the inspector and for the file.

Do you have any idea what laws or regulations are being inspected or enforced?

Suggest a meeting with workers.

Recognize state vs. federal differences.



# Final Thoughts

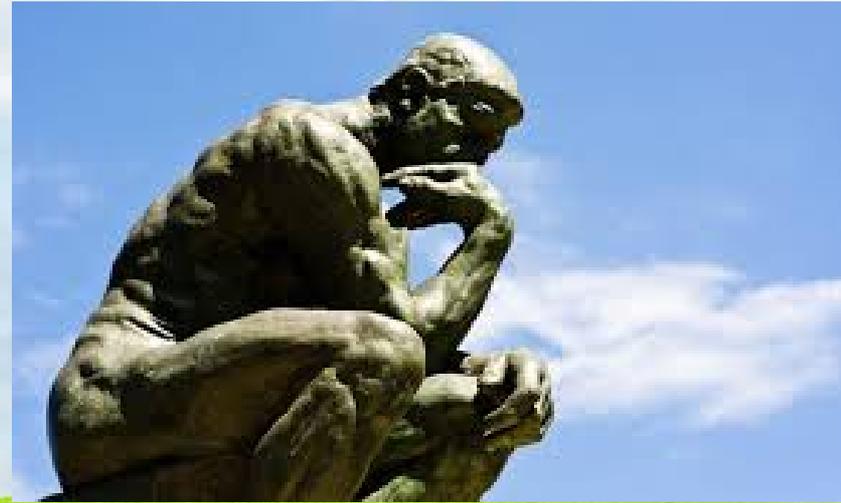
Carefully weigh the cost vs. benefit.

Be professional – and expect it in return.

If inspectors are not professional, it is your right to stop the inspection, contact the agency, and ask for another inspector.

If you are a wafla member, we will absolutely support you in this.

And so will your elected officials.



**Farming is easy when your  
plow is a pencil and you are  
sitting a thousand miles  
from the corn field.**

President Dwight D. Eisenhower.



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**Thank you.**



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