On October 29, 2007, a public hearing was held to consider the proposed amendments of MAR Notice No. 24-121-5. The Board will consider adoption these changes at the January meeting. Some of the highlights of the hearing are:

- **24.121.301(23)** - "Single use items" mean items which shall be discarded after being used one time. These items include but are not limited to emery boards, nonmetal files without documentation from the manufacturer stating file is disinfectable, mandrels, and sanding bands for electric files, orangewood/birchwood sticks, wooden applicator sticks or spatulas, porous foot files, disposable gloves, paraffin liners, cotton balls, cotton strips, cotton swabs, neck strips or muslin strips, and any item that cannot be cleaned and disinfected and remain intact in its original condition.

- **24.121.601 (2)** Previously licensed applicants may apply for licensure within ten years of termination of license by meeting current board licensing requirements and successfully passing a national written exam.

In addition to the rules stated above, there are new hour distributions for school curriculum and new rules for the Blood Spill Procedure and disinfecting.

The Board statutes, rules, and rule notices can be viewed and downloaded from our website at: [www.cosmetology.mt.gov](http://www.cosmetology.mt.gov).

If you would like us to send you a hard copy, please contact the Board office.

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**Farewell...**

Sadly we must say good-bye to Darlene Battaiola who is going off the Board. Darlene served the Cosmetology Board for 11 years. Darlene has been an asset to both this Board and Montana and will be greatly missed.

**Welcome...**

Governor Schweitzer has named Angela Printz as the third cosmetologist licensee to the Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists. Printz will serve a five year term that expires October 2012.

Governor Schweitzer re-appointed Maggie Burton-Blize to the Board. Maggie will serve another five year term that expires October 2012.
Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA)

MRSA stands for methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, a type of staph infection that is resistant to methicillin and other commonly used antibiotics in the same class, including penicillin, amoxicillin, and oxacillin.

Community-associated Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (CA-MRSA) is now the most common cause of skin infections in many parts of the country.

CA-MRSA is different from the hospital strain of MRSA in that it usually affects previously healthy individuals, and it usually responds to antibiotics. In the community, most MRSA infections are skin infections that may appear as pimples or blisters which often are red, swollen, painful or have pus or other drainage. These skin infections commonly occur at sites of cuts and abrasions, and areas covered by body hair (e.g., back of neck, groin, buttocks, armpits, beard area of men).

Athletes, students and patrons of salons are the main sources of infection. The most common area in the salon is the whirlpool baths that are not disinfected properly between clients. Just as responsible are dirty implements, linens, treatment tables, and neck rests.

Proper disinfection is critical to the prevention of MRSA. Wash your hands and have your clients’ wash their hands or feet with antibacterial soap before and after every service or using the restroom. Avoid sharing personal items such as spatulas, linens, sheets, and implements. Dispose of all porous items (e.g. files, spatulas, wooden implements) after single use.

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) was created as part of the U.S. Department of Labor to regulate and enforce safety and health standards to protect employees in the workplace. Regulating employee exposure to potentially toxic substances and informing employees about possible hazards of materials used in the workplace are key points of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. This regulation created the Hazard Communication Act, which requires that chemical manufacturers and importers assess the hazards associated with their products. Material safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are a result of this law.

In the cosmetology, barber, manicuring, esthetics, and Electrology industry, owners and employees are exposed to many different types of chemicals. The MSDS is an important document that explains the risks, precautions, and response actions related to exposure to a particular hazardous material used as an ingredient in a product and explains the appropriate and best course of action should accidental overexposure occur.

Salon owners should review and understand the content of the MSDS of the products they purchase to ensure the safety of others and should have these forms in an area that is accessible to all employees. Anyone who works with these products should know how to respond in an emergency or if overexposure occurs. They should also know how to dispose of unused products and what kind of protective equipment should be used, whether it be gloves, mask, etc. when working with these products.

If a product is delivered without an MSDS, ask the manufacturer to send you the MSDS before using the product. If you need copies for your shop, your distributors or suppliers must provide them for you. Owners should also request the most up-to-date version at least once a year.

The Board is proposing a new rule which will require MSDS sheets for all hazardous materials.
Most Common Violations

Listed below are the most common violations found in salons throughout Montana:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation:</th>
<th>How to correct:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unapproved equipment</td>
<td>Ensure all new machines and devices are approved by the Board prior to using them. Ensure licenses are displayed conspicuously for members of the public to view.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posting current licenses</td>
<td>Booth renters must display their licenses at their working areas. Ensure the booth is labeled with a clear legible sign at least 6”x3” which states who rents the booth and clearly label all areas of the salon/shop maintained by each booth renter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labeling stations (booth renters)</td>
<td>Ensure all disinfectants are mixed and used according to the manufacturer's directions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disinfectants not properly mixed</td>
<td>Clean tools and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ensure all clean tools and the booth is labeled with a clear legible sign at least 6”x3” which states who rents the booth and clearly label all areas of the salon/shop maintained by each booth renter.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Esthetics vs. Massage Therapy

Any service which beautifies the skin is the scope of practice of a cosmetologist, barber, or esthetician and not allowed to be performed by massage therapists.

The easiest way to ensure massage therapists in your salon/shop are not performing services that are within the scope of practice for cosmetologists, barbers, and estheticians is:

- **massage therapy is the manipulation of soft tissue... not beautification of the skin or application of preparations or cosmetics**

  The Board will issue Cease and Desist notices to massage therapists who are practicing within our scope of practice.

FYI...

The origin of the barber's pole appears to be associated with service of bloodletting. The original pole has a brass basin at its top representing the vessel in which leeches were kept and also represented the basin which received the blood. The pole itself represented the staff which the patient held onto during the operation. The red and white stripes represented the bandages used during the procedure, red for the bandages stained with blood during the operation and white for the clean bandages. The bandages would be hung out to dry after washing on the pole and would blow and twist together forming the spiral pattern similar to the modern day barber pole.

The bloodstained bandages became recognized as the emblem of the barber-surgeon's profession. Later in time, the emblem was replaced by a wooden pole of white and red stripes. These colors are recognized as the true colors of the barber emblem.

Renewals

As the 2007 license renewals wrap up, we at the Board office would like to thank everyone for their patience with us during this very busy time.

Not all licensees like to renew on-line, but there are many benefits in doing so. On-line renewing eliminates incomplete renewals and money being sent back and forth. It also eliminates postage costs and late fees.

If you do not have a computer, visit your local library or go to the nearest job service. Most places that offer printing and copying also have computers to use there.

“The Board will issue Cease and Desist notices to massage therapists who are practicing within our scope of practice.”
Board Members

Wendell Petersen, Chairman
Cosmetologists, 10/01/2008

Maxine Collins, Secretary
Manicurist, 10/01/2010

Juanita Mace
Cosmetologist, 10/01/2011

Angela Printz
Cosmetologist, 10/01/2012

Edward Dutton
Barber, 10/01/2008

Karan Charles
Barber, 10/01/2011

Maggie Burton-Blize
Barber, 10/01/2012

Delores Lund
Public Member, 10/01/2010

Jamie Ausk-Crisafulli
Public Member, 10/01/2008

Board Staff

Grace Berger
Executive Officer

Andy Verbanac
Program Manager

Shane Younger
Application Specialist

Dennis Clark
Inspector

Jeff Garden
Inspector

Licensee Stats:

Barbers 584
Cosmetologists 6155
Electrologists 35
Estheticians 263
Manicurists 1032
Salons 1156
Barbershops 193
Cos. Instructors 76
Bar. Instructors 4
Cos. Schools 11
Bar. Schools 1

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Closed on all major holidays

Office Phone Numbers

Applications – (406) 841-2378
All Other – (406) 841-2335

As of 1/16/08

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