

LEGIONNAIRES' DISEASE PREVENTION



Creating effective water management programs

WHAT IS LEGIONNAIRES' DISEASE?

"Legionnaires' disease is a serious type of pneumonia caused by Legionella bacteria. People can get sick when they breathe in small droplets of water or accidentally swallow water containing Legionella into the lungs (CDC, March 2021)." *"According to the CDC, rates of Legionnaires' disease had increased 9- fold since 2000 (CDC, May 2021)."*

<https://www.cdc.gov/legionella/index.html>
<https://www.cdc.gov/legionella/wmp/hotel-owners-managers.html>



SIGNS & SYMPTOMS



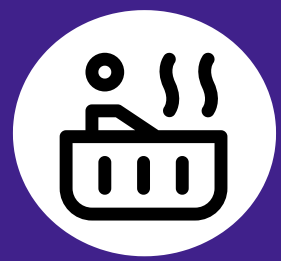
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Fever
- Muscle aches
- Headaches

"Symptoms usually begin 2 to 10 days after being exposed to the bacteria, but it can take longer so people should watch for symptoms for about 2 weeks after exposure (CDC, March 2021)."

<https://www.cdc.gov/legionella/about/signs-symptoms.html>

SOURCES OF LEGIONELLA GROWTH

- Shower
- Hot tub
- Decorative fountains
- Cooling Towers
- Water storage tanks
- Humidifiers
- Stagnant water in plumbing systems



LEGIONNAIRES DISEASE PREVENTION?



• *"Legionella grows best within a certain temperature range (77°F-113°F). To keep water outside the range for Legionella growth, it is important to keep cold water cold and keep hot water hot (CDC, April 2018)."*

- Prevent stagnant water conditions.
- Effective water management programs can reduce the incidence of Legionnaires' disease.

<https://www.cdc.gov/legionella/wmp/overview/growth-and-spread.html>

WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Water management programs are designed to:

- Identify areas in your building where Legionella can grow.
- Implement a procedure or plan to reduce the risk of Legionella growth.
- Maintain and monitor the building's water system program.



A water management program is a multi-step process. Please refer to the CDC website for design and implementation program.
www.cdc.gov/legionella/WMPtoolkit

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

- Utah Department of Health
<https://health.utah.gov/epi/diseases/legionellosis/>

-Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
cdc.gov/legionella