

Legionnaires' Disease

Use water management programs in buildings to help prevent outbreaks

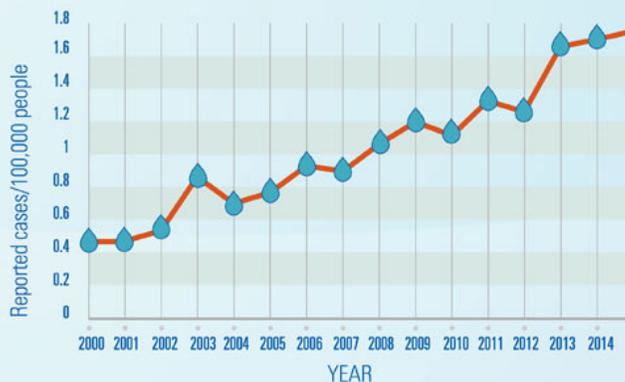
A *Legionella* water management program consists of:

- 1 Establishing a water management program team.
- 2 Describing the building water systems using words and diagrams.
- 3 Identifying areas where *Legionella* could grow and spread.
- 4 Deciding where control measures should be applied and how to monitor them.
- 5 Establishing ways to intervene when control limits are not met.
- 6 Making sure the program is running as designed and is effective.
- 7 Documenting and communicating all the activities.

www.cdc.gov/legionella/WMPtoolkit

SOURCE: ASHRAE 188: Legionellosis: Risk Management for Building Water Systems
June 26, 2015.

Legionnaires' disease is on the rise



SOURCE: National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System, CDC, 2000–2014.

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More information is available at www.cdc.gov/legionella/WMPtoolkit

(<https://web.archive.org/web/20160610035242/http://www.cdc.gov/legionella/WMPtoolkit>)

Legionnaires' disease is on the rise

Year	Reported Cases/100,000 People
2000	0.42
2001	0.42
2002	0.47
2003	0.78
2004	0.71
2005	0.78
2006	0.96
2007	0.91
2008	1.05
2009	1.16
2010	1.09
2011	1.36
2012	1.19
2013	1.58
2014	1.62

Legionella can grow and spread in many areas of a building.

Effective water management programs can **REDUCE** the risk of Legionnaires' disease.

Legionella can make people sick when the germs grow in water and spread in droplets small enough for people to breathe in.

Legionella grows best in warm water that is not moving or that does not have enough disinfectant to kill germs.



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Effective water management programs can reduce the risk for Legionnaires' disease

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Cooling Tower

When disinfectant levels are low, cooling tower fans can spray contaminated water droplets.

Shower

Legionella can grow in and spread through showerheads if a building's water has low disinfectant levels.

Unoccupied Floor

Low occupancy decreases water flow and disinfectant levels, increasing risk of *Legionella* growth.

Hot Tub

If hot tubs are not well maintained, the warm temperature supports growth of *Legionella*, which can spread through water jets.

Decorative Fountain

Legionella can grow in warm areas of a fountain and splashing can spread this contaminated water.

Municipal Water Supply

Events that interrupt the delivery of municipal water to a building, such as nearby construction, allow dirt to enter the system and use up disinfectant.

SOURCE: Vital Signs, June 2016

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