

Water Management Programs Improve Safety and Mitigate Risk

ASHRAE 188-2015 is the first standard in the United States outlining a strategy aimed at reducing the risk of Legionella outbreaks by focusing on the implementation of a successful Water Management Program (WMP). A site-specific WMP, including proper use of secondary disinfectants, correct water temperatures, point of use filtration, and other measures can help prevent a majority of outbreaks. This Standard has resulted in organizations, such as CMS, mandating WMP's at healthcare facilities.

"Most outbreaks could be prevented with effective water management."

CDC Vital signs, June 2017

"Facilities unable to demonstrate measures to minimize the risk of Legionnaires' Disease are at risk of citation for non-compliance with the CMS Conditions of Participation." *CMS Memo, June 2, 2017*

Who is required to have a Water Management Program?

The following buildings with a cooling tower and/or multiple other water systems now require a WMP:

BUILDINGS

- Multiple housing units with a centralized hot water system
- More than 10 stories
- Healthcare facilities where patient stays exceed 24 hours
- Occupants that have compromised immune systems
- Occupants over the age of 65

WATER SYSTEMS

- Cooling towers or evaporative condensers
- Decorative fountains
- Whirlpools
- Misters, air washers, humidifiers, atomizers



What is a Water Management Program?

A WMP is a document that describes your facility's "Program" for risk management of potable and non-potable water. It is the responsibility of the building owner to develop and manage the WMP. Watertech has partnered with HC Info, a leading Legionella Consulting group, to assist customers in obtaining and implementing all parts of the WMP.

What Should a Program Include?

A Program includes a team of individuals designated to develop, implement, and maintain the WMP. They conduct a site assessment and risk analysis, including a list of all building water systems and equipment, and a schematic. They ensure regular water treatment and legionella testing are performed and anything out of range is addressed and corrected.

After the Program is in place it is important to recognize a WMP is an ongoing process of analysis and remediation. Regular assessments will need to be performed to confirm the Program is being implemented as stated and is effectively controlling conditions.

4 Key Steps To An Effective Water Management Program

An effective Water Management Program will be a consistent and ongoing process of analysis and remediation.



OFFERS:

- Full Development of a Water Management Program
- Membership on your WMP Team
- Systems Monitoring
- Legionella Testing
- Corrective Actions
- Online Documentation and Recordkeeping

Reduce Risk and Improve Safety With Healthy Water Management

Watertech can help you outline a plan that ensures compliance! Watertech has worked with healthcare facilities for over 35 years to help minimize risk and improve water safety for both patients and employees. At Watertech, our goal is to protect your bottom line while making water safety a top priority.

Call for a facility assessment.



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