



# Legionellosis Prevention Checklist for Building Owners/Managers

Legionellosis refers to two illnesses that develop from exposure to *Legionella* bacteria: Legionnaires' disease and Pontiac fever.

For the past few years, Washington, DC has experienced an increase in legionellosis cases during the fall months of September, October, and November.

To prevent legionellosis this fall, complete the below checklist:

**1**  Determine if your building has an increased risk of *Legionella* growth and spread.

[Worksheet to Identify Buildings at Increased Risk for \*Legionella\* Growth and Spread](#)

**2**  Develop a Water Management Program (WMP).

[Toolkit: Developing a Water Management Program to Reduce \*Legionella\* Growth and Spread in Buildings](#)

- ▶ Identify a WMP Team (owner, manager, engineering staff, etc.).
- ▶ Describe your building's water systems using diagrams.
- ▶ Identify areas where *Legionella* could grow and spread.
- ▶ Select control measures to reduce *Legionella* growth and spread.

**3**  Inspect and clean all identified common sources of infection (cooling towers, hot tubs, etc.).

**4**  Verify all control measures outlined in your building's WMP.

**5**  Review and organize recordkeeping (inspection logs, cleaning schedules, etc.).

**6**  Consider implementing routine *Legionella* environmental testing.

**7**  Ensure your building has a backflow prevention assembly (ASSE Standard 1013) and that it has been inspected, approved, and reported to DC Water.

**8**  Immediately report all cases of water-borne illnesses to DC Health at [community.hygiene@dc.gov](mailto:community.hygiene@dc.gov) and all legionellosis cases to [legionella.epi@dc.gov](mailto:legionella.epi@dc.gov).

**9**  Reach out to DC Health for assistance in preventing legionellosis at your building (answer questions, review WMPs, provide guidance on specific situations, etc.).

DC Health Legionellosis Program:

[legionella.epi@dc.gov](mailto:legionella.epi@dc.gov)