



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

February 22, 2017

ALTSA: NH #2017-005
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC) RECOMMENDED GUIDANCE
FOR WATER MANAGEMENT PLANS

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator:

Legionella, the bacterium that causes a type of serious lung infection known as Legionnaires' disease, grows best in building water systems that are not well maintained. Some water systems in buildings have a higher risk for Legionella growth and spread than others. While creation of a water management plan is not required in long-term care facilities, the CDC is recommending all long-term care facilities have water management plans to reduce the likelihood of a Legionella outbreak.

The CDC has outlined ideas and created toolkits facilities may use to create an effective water management plan and reduce potential Legionella growth. If a facility is interested in developing a water management plan, the following website contains information facilities can use to assist in this process: <https://www.cdc.gov/legionella/maintenance/wmp-toolkit.html>

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Amy Abbott, Policy Unit Manager at (360) 725-2327 or at beckeame@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Candace Goehring, Director
Residential Care Services

"Transforming Lives"