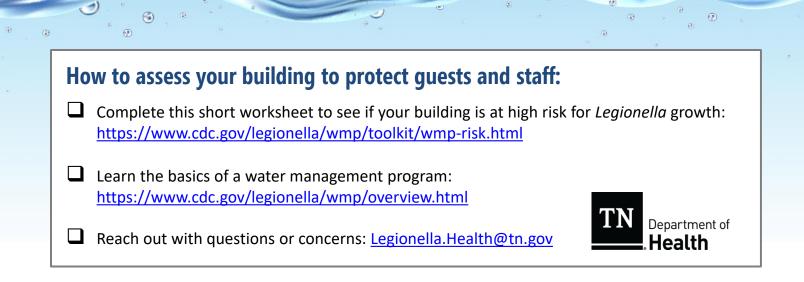
What you need to know about...

Your building water system and Legionella





What is *Legionella*?

Legionella are bacteria that can cause a serious lung infection called Legionnaires' disease. People can get sick when they inhale water droplets that contain the bacteria.



How does Legionella affect building water?

Legionella bacteria grow naturally in the environment and in water. They can also grow in building water systems. Buildings with large water systems, like hotels, may be more likely to grow *Legionella*. If the bacteria are present, they can be spread through aerosols produced by: hot and cold water systems, showerheads, decorative fountains, hot tubs, cooling towers, and more.



Why should you care?

Legionella may grow and spread in hotel water systems. Hotels often have a large number of visitors and numerous *Legionella* outbreaks have occurred at hotels. From 2016 to 2017, there were 134 illnesses related to two outbreaks at Tennessee hotels.



What can you do to prevent Legionella?

You can protect your guests and staff by assessing your water system and learning about water management programs. Using a water management program can help identify hazards in your water system and prevent the growth and spread of *Legionella* bacteria.

