



CT DPH Guidance

Return to Service Recommendations for Cooling Towers Following a Water Interruption to Minimize Risk of Legionellosis Associated With Building Water Systems

2018

This information is based upon communication with the CDC and ASHRAE Guideline 12-2000,
Minimizing the Risk of Legionellosis Associated with Building Water Systems

1. Remove accessible solid debris from CT basins, sumps, remote storage tanks
2. **Execute one of the two biocide treatments described below:**
 - a. Treat with the biocide that had been used prior to shutdown. Utilize the services of the water treatment supplier. The residual must be held at 4 to 5 mg/L (ppm) for six hours. Measure residual using standard commercial water test kits or meters.
 - b. Treat the system with sodium hypochlorite to a level of 4 to 5 mg/L (ppm) **FREE** chlorine residual at a pH of 7.0 to 7.6. The residual must be held at 4 to 5 mg/L (ppm) for six hours. Measure residual using standard commercial water test kits or meters.
3. **Check injection systems to make sure that the chemical feed stations are enabled and working properly. Sometimes these systems require a manual re-start after a cooling tower shut down.** Even if systems are managed remotely, all systems need to be visually inspected.
4. **Do not turn on fan or circulate water over the fill material until steps 2 and 3 has been successfully achieved.** Once steps 2 and 3 have been achieved, fan may be turned on and water may be allowed to circulate over the fill.
5. Have a technician check the cooling tower functionality to make sure it is performing to design specs.