



## Nursing Care Centers Tip Sheet: Water Management Program Requirements

The Joint Commission is implementing <u>new requirements</u> related to water management programs that address *Legionella* and other waterborne pathogens for nursing care centers (NCC), effective January 1, 2022.

## Here are a few tips to help your NCC meet the new requirements:

- Connect with your state's <u>Healthcare-Associated Infection (HAI) Coordinator</u> to learn more about local HAI prevention activities, including those related to water management.
- Review and use the following resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to educate yourself about water management, including how to create a water management program and conduct a water-related risk assessment:
  - o Water Management in Healthcare Facilities
  - o Reduce Risk from Water
  - o Developing a Water Management Program to Reduce Legionella Growth and Spread in Buildings
  - o Water Infection Control Risk Assessment (WICRA) for Healthcare Settings
- Reach out to a water management professional or the facilities and infection prevention and control staff at your closest acute care hospital for assistance in planning and implementing a water management plan.

The Joint Commission is here to support NCCs as you incorporate the new requirements. **Questions?** Please <u>contact</u> the Standards Interpretation Group.