



HOW TO BE READY FOR THE CMS AUDIT.

Your Facility
Water Management Plan

A Step-By-Step Guide

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THE SAFE WATER AUTHORITY®

GETTING STARTED

This guide outlines the core elements of a CMS-certified Water Management Plan, for preventing the growth and spread of Legionella. While every step is important, there is a quick and economical way to get started: a *Facility Risk Assessment*. This is a walk-through of your facility that documents:

- Water system points-of-use (sinks, hot tubs, showers, etc.),
- Likely areas for pathogen growth and,
- The risks to your residents and staff

HydroCorp generally completes this assessment in less than a day, giving you a baseline understanding of your facility status, and helping guide decisions on the way to a defensible Water Management Plan.



There are seven essential steps to a **CMS-Certified Water Management Plan**:

1. *Assembling Your Team*
2. *Mapping the Water System*
3. *Identifying The Risks*
4. *Mitigating The Risks*
5. *Monitoring and Responding*
6. *Reviewing Progress*
7. *Documentation and Compliance*

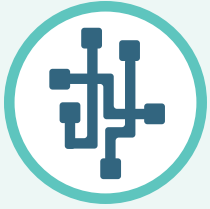
Across the country, HydroCorp assists CMS nursing care facilities with each step, simplifying and tailoring the process to meet individual budgets and timelines.

STEP 1. ASSEMBLING YOUR TEAM

CMS calls for a Designated Team for each facility, to create the Water Management Plan and oversee its implementation. Your Team should include representatives from:

- **Facility Management**
- **Nursing Care Management**
- **Occupational And Environmental Safety**
- **Water System Specialist**

HydroCorp brings over 40 years of experience to protecting healthcare facility water systems.



STEP 2. MAPPING THE WATER SYSTEM

A water system flow diagram indicates where water enters the facility, how and where it is distributed, and the conditions under which it comes in contact with people. This map will help the Team identify potential hazard conditions, and areas at high risk of pathogen growth. HydroCorp provides a range of mapping services to meet any facility needs.



STEP 4. MITIGATING THE RISKS

Once the risks are characterized, the Team will use a risk management approach to identify control limits, such as flow rate, water temperature, disinfectant residual, concentration of pathogen, or any other identified measurements. These limits and their locations will determine what control measures are employed to protect the water system.



STEP 3. IDENTIFYING RISKS

The Team evaluates the water flow diagram to identify potential risks both to the resident and staff populations, as well as the equipment and building systems.



STEP 5. MONITORING AND RESPONDING

Next, the Team develops monitoring procedures to keep an eye on the control limit data, and develops appropriate responses to any deviation. Standard response procedures are to be outlined in the Plan, and typically include:

- **Disinfecting**
- **Heating**
- **Cooling**
- **Filtering**
- **Flushing**





STEP 6. REVIEWING PROGRESS

Once established, it will be important to confirm the Water Management Plan is working. This may be as simple as developing a spreadsheet that highlights the specific Plan steps to be reviewed whenever anomalies occur.



STEP 7. DOCUMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE

From the first step to the last, all Water Management Plan activities should be documented, maintained and kept current. This documentation is the essential deliverable that will demonstrate your facility's compliance with CMS regulations.

Complying with the CMS guidelines need not be a difficult process. HydroCorp is here to help. Call 844.493.7646 today.



To schedule a free no-obligation consultation, call HydroCorp today at 844.493.7646.

HydroCorpInc.com



WHY THIS MATTERS

A recent CDC report reveals 33% of Legionella outbreaks, 57% of outbreak-associated cases, and 85% of outbreak-associated deaths, are healthcare facility-related. And the majority of those – 79% – originate in nursing and long-term care facilities.

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