

` DIRECT FROM CDC ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

In addition, CDC created the LEAF Marking Guide to provide users with instructions and additional considerations for each LEAF question. These considerations provide more context and background on relevant risk factors for Legionella growth and spread, and they educate users conducting the assessment. The marking guide includes key definitions, in-depth details about each question, and information that can help the user collect appropriate data. LEAF data can help improve water management programs, identify the need for environmental sampling, and develop life-saving interventions.

Using Legionella Assessment Tools Improve Environmental Health Decision Making

A Legionella environmental assessment should be performed by an environmental health specialist or epidemiologist who is knowledgeable of Legionella ecology, building water systems, and water treatment. The assessment should also involve a person, such as a facility manager, who is familiar with the building's systems and maintenance. Environmental health specialists or epidemiologists who have taken CDC's PreventLD training, watched our sampling videos, and studied the Legionella Control Toolkit will have the appropriate knowl-

edge to perform an assessment and complete the assessment form.

Information from LEAF should be paired with relevant epidemiological information such as who was exposed or infected and where and when the exposure possibly happened. This information can guide the user to determine which environmental deficiency might have occurred and help them decide if environmental sampling is necessary and where sampling should occur. In addition, findings from LEAF can also be used to implement preventive measures in areas at high risk for Legionella growth or spread, and they might be used to develop or improve a water management program.

To learn more, visit our website for additional information and resources at www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/water/legionella/index.html.