

LEGIONELLA CONFERENCE 2019

Presented by NSF International and the National Environmental Health Association



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The *Legionella* Conference 2019 provides a unique opportunity for sustained discussions on how we can align our water and energy sustainability and public health goals. We are looking for experts to give presentations and posters at the event on September 11-13 in Los Angeles. We welcome your abstracts and have provided some topic ideas below.

Visit legionellaconference.org to complete a submission form.

Abstracts for oral presentations are due by April 1 and for posters by May 1.

TOPIC IDEAS

Important topics include reducing energy and water demand, strategies for monitoring risk, mitigation solutions, factors increasing microbial risks, plumbing design requirements for low-flow systems and the national research agenda.

Relevant abstract topics may include:

Creating a Successful Water Management Program

- Strategies for operationalizing water safety plans
- Research on creating a positive water safety culture
- Case studies on implementing successful water management programs in health care, institutional, industrial and commercial campuses

Advancing Water Reuse Opportunities

- Expediting potable and non-potable water reuse approvals
- Incorporating public health protection into water reuse regulations and approvals globally
- Case studies on strategies to mitigate bacteriological growth in water reuse systems
- Characterizing bacteriological growth of water reuse piping
- Quantifying and developing risk assessment guidelines for water reuse systems
- Using water rate funds for incentivizing and funding decentralized water reuse systems

Monitoring a Successful Water Management Program

- Validating a water management program
- Research showing that monitoring minimum physicochemical parameters (e.g. temperature, disinfectant residual, etc.) achieves desired cultural or molecular *Legionella* levels/occurrence
- Guidance available to make health-based decisions based on monitoring data (How can QMRA models guide corrective actions? What is the evidence that non-microbial guidelines (e.g. temperature, biocide, etc.) are effective for risk control?)
- Experiences in implementing a monitoring program (what testing methods are available at a commercial lab versus what could be done on-site)
- Reviews of testing and monitoring technologies
- Developing guidance for making health-based decisions in response to microbial water quality and clinical surveillance data
- Developing guidance for responding to non-microbial water quality impacting effective risk control



Intersection of Sustainability and Public Health for Cooling Towers

- Estimating regional water demand from cooling tower systems
- Strategies for successfully using non-potable water sources in cooling tower systems
- Cases studies on successful alignment of conservation, asset protection and risk management
- Organization and impact of cooling tower registration systems

Water Conservation Goals and Public Health – Responding to Unintended Consequences

- What is the responsibility of water utilities to address unintended public health consequences associated with their conservation goals and requirements?
- What is the responsibility of the federal government to address unintended public health consequences associated with its water conservation requirements?
- What is the responsibility of an organization certifying to voluntary sustainability standards to address unintended public health consequences associated with its water conservation requirements?
- How are water utilities factoring public health outcomes into their water conservation investments and priorities?

Strategies for Benchmarking Building Water Systems for Sustainability and Public Health Outcomes

- What public health and environmental data should be included in sustainability benchmarking systems?
- What outcomes should be used to demonstrate improvements in public health and risk management?
- Review of industry specific benchmarking programs (Health Care, Hospitality, Commercial, Industrial)

***Legionella* Outbreak Surveillance and Response Strategies – Identifying Best Practices**

- Impact of cooling tower registration systems on outbreak response times
- Applying spatial and temporal surveillance tools to identify clusters and outbreaks
- Assessment of the policies and procedures for surveillance, response and risk messaging protocols of public health departments
- Implications of the manslaughter charges arising from the Flint, MI *Legionella* outbreak for public health officials and the private sector

Domestic Hot Water Systems – Safely and Efficiently Managing Water Temperatures

- Strategies for using alternative energy sources
- Strategies to maintain temperature targets throughout the whole system

Plumbing Design

- Research gaps and needs to create plumbing code designed for low-flow environments
- Avoiding high water age when retrofitting an existing building
- Tools/models for calculating water age and flow rates in “green” buildings
- Assessment/investigations into the minimum flow rates that can be achieved while still meeting water quality parameters
- Design considerations for high-risk environments – health care, schools, child-care, etc.
- Design considerations for high-density and multi-building campuses

Visit legionellaconference.org to complete a submission form or email info@legionellaconference.org with questions.