

From: Wilson, Caitlin@DGS on behalf of Osborn, Jennifer@DGS

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2023 5:04:58 PM

Subject: Upcoming Water Testing

***This message is intended for departments and agencies that have staff in
the Ronald Reagan State Building & the Ronald M. George Complex***

Dear Colleagues,

The DGS Department of General Services (DGS) will soon start water testing for the presence of Legionella and other water-borne bacteria in the Ronald Reagan State Building in Los Angeles and the Ronald M. George Complex in San Francisco.

As a preventive measure in 2022, the Department of General Services (DGS) Facilities Management Division (FMD) began testing sample sites of DGS' building portfolio throughout the state for presence of the Legionella bacteria. DGS is now building out a statewide water management plan for each state-owned building. The Judicial Council of California has offered to jumpstart the process in these two buildings by using their in-house expertise, and DGS will coordinate with them.

To be clear, it is not uncommon to find Legionella bacteria in office buildings. In a study of U.S. office buildings, researchers found Legionella present in 35% of office building taps tested. It is worth noting that most healthy people exposed to Legionella bacteria do not get sick. Some people may experience mild symptoms if exposed to the bacteria, and when some people (usually those at higher risk for disease) do become infected and get Legionnaires' Disease, it primarily causes cough, fever and shortness of breath. As with other forms of pneumonia, other symptoms can present as well, so it is important to consult with a health care provider if experiencing any symptoms. Most people with Legionnaires' Disease do fully recover with antibiotic treatment. Legionella or Legionnaires' Disease are not usually associated with long-term symptoms.

Our goal has been and continues to be, maintaining the safety of our tenants, members of the public and staff.

We thank you for your understanding and patience as we work toward ensuring the safety of our tenants and employees.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me.

Thank you,

Jennifer Osborn
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