

Your Hot Tub/Spa and *Legionella*



Legionella are bacteria that can cause a serious lung infection called Legionnaires' disease. *Legionella* bacteria grow naturally in water and especially in warm water.



Hot tubs that are not cleaned and disinfected properly can become contaminated with *Legionella*. People can get infected with *Legionella* if they inhale steam or mist from a contaminated hot tub.

Make sure your hot tub is maintained and properly disinfected

To prevent the growth and spread of bacteria like *Legionella* in your hot tub, perform these activities regularly:

Check disinfectant and pH levels

To learn more about recommended test kits and proper disinfection, visit

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthy-swimming/about/home-pool-and-hot-tub-water-treatment-and-testing.html>

Remember to check levels more often when the hot tub is being used by a lot of people

Remove slime or biofilm by scrubbing and cleaning

Replace the hot tub water filter according to manufacturer's recommendations

Replace the hot tub water



The number of people with Legionnaire's disease in Tennessee and in the United States has increased since 2000. In 2023, over **150 people in Tennessee** were diagnosed with **Legionnaires' disease** and **9% used a hot tub** during the time they could have become infected.



To learn more about care of your hot tub, visit

www.cdc.gov/healthy-swimming/prevention/preventing-legionella-from-hot-tubs.html

To learn more about Legionella, visit

www.cdc.gov/legionella/index.html

Please contact the Tennessee Department of Health with questions or concerns: Legionella.Health@tn.gov



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