

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Cooling Towers in Oneida County Must Register with NYS DOH by September 16, 2015

The NYS Department of Health has adopted emergency regulations to prevent the spread of Legionella bacteria as a result of an outbreak of Legionnaires' disease in NYC. Cooling towers were implicated as the source of this outbreak.

These regulations were effective August 17, 2015 and require the registration, testing, inspection and certification of all cooling towers in NYS. The deadline for statewide electronic registration, testing, and inspection is September 16, 2015.

Any owner of a building with a cooling tower must obtain and implement a maintenance program and plan by March 1, 2016. In addition, cooling towers must be certified as complying with all regulatory requirements on annual basis beginning November 1, 2016.

Any violation of the regulations is subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Additional information can be obtained by calling 1-888-769-7243.

The complete regulations can be found at:

https://www.health.ny.gov/regulations/emergency/docs/protection_against_legionella.pdf.

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