Prepare your Cooling Tower for Summer

This is a courtesy reminder of summer maintenance activities for your cooling tower system.

Starting up Your Cooling Tower System

When starting up your cooling tower for the cooling season or after a shutdown period, comply with requirements in §8-06(b) of Chapter 8 of Title 24 of the Rules of the City of New York (Chapter 8). For guidance, see the *Cooling Tower Startup Procedures*.

Expand startup procedures to include the entire cooling tower system.

> ***Conduct Pre-startup inspection:*** Inspect all wetted surfaces to prepare for cleaning. This includes every visible surface that cooling tower water contacts as it circulates.
>
> ***Cleaning must be systemic:*** Review the manufacturers' recommendations and your maintenance program and plan (MPP) for the cleaning frequency of each system component and conduct cleaning as recommended. This may include heat exchangers, chillers, other heat transfer devices and components, and offline equipment.

Plan for Summertime Hyperhalogenation

Chapter 8 requires an annual summertime hyperhalogenation for every cooling tower system. This includes an application of higher-than-normal level of chlorine- or bromine-based biocide between July 1 and August 31 aimed at preventing the growth of *Legionella* bacteria. Schedule the summertime hyperhalogenation and *Legionella* sampling with your water management company in advance of the summer season.

For more information see the *Summertime Disinfection Requirement FAQ*.

Cooling Tower Efficiency: Adapt to the Weather

Increased heat load and cooling demand during hot temperatures, high humidity and intense precipitation conditions may impact cooling tower operation efficiency by causing higher water temperatures, faster depletion of disinfectants, and increased drift loss, creating a more favorable environment for Legionella growth and exposure.

Evaluate best management and practices for changing weather conditions especially when temperatures reach 90°F or above for 2 or more consecutive days and after severe weather events. Set aside resources for your water management team to implement maintenance adjustments as needed. Consider increasing water quality monitoring, conducting Legionella sampling, temporarily raising free residual oxidant targets, performing supplemental biocide addition or hyperhalogenation, and adjusting cycles of concentration to reduce risk of Legionella growth and reproduction in the cooling tower system.