



Water Treatment Company
of Maryland, Inc.

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Dear Valued Customers,

For many years Arc has been recognized nationally for its leadership in providing sampling and testing of potable and non-potable water to determine the levels of pathogens that can cause legionellosis. We pride ourselves on keeping up with the most innovative, simple, accurate and affordable methods of testing for our customers in order to limit outbreaks of legionellosis. With this intention, we are happy to update you on a change to our testing methods that will occur in the near future.

Our current testing method for cooling towers and many other non-potable samples starts with a direct fluorescent antibody test (DFA), which counts cells of the *Legionella pneumophila* groups, and if count guidelines warrant, is then followed up with a culture test to determine the number of living colony forming *Legionella* units. This method has been a simple, successful and recognized approach to analyzing these non-potable water samples. In addition, many of our samples from potable water, or from high-risk health care sites have been tested by going directly to a culture test, in order to obtain a count of colony forming units.

We now have the ability to test for *Legionella pneumophila* using a relatively new test called Legiolert, developed by IDEXX. Legiolert has been recognized as successful in Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ELITE panels, and has also been accredited by the New York State Department of Health as an approved method under ISO 11731. Legiolert uses a bacterial enzyme detection technology that will more accurately and reliably detect *Legionella pneumophila* in seven days in both potable and non-potable samples. Therefore, we have decided between now and the end of 2018 we will phase out our DFA test and replace it with the Legiolert testing method. We will continue to offer the direct-culture method.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions regarding this change.

Sincerely,

Arc Water Treatment Company of Maryland, Inc.