

## Domestic Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Epidemiology Team

General Narrative: The Domestic Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Epidemiology Team is the lead epidemiology unit for U.S. water-related disease in CDC's National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases. This team tracks and investigates waterborne disease and outbreaks, builds waterborne disease prevention capability in state and local health departments, and develops effective prevention strategies to improve health. Other Centers, Institutes and Offices at CDC also provide capabilities to investigate waterborne disease and outbreaks.

Detailed Narrative: The Domestic Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Epidemiology Team is the lead epidemiology unit for U.S. water-related disease in CDC's National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases. This team tracks and investigates waterborne disease and outbreaks, builds waterborne disease prevention capability in state and local health departments, and develops effective prevention strategies to improve health.

CDC works across five areas:

- [Waterborne disease and outbreak tracking](#)
- [Drinking water](#)
- [Recreational water](#)
- [Water-related disaster response and preparedness](#)
- Pathogen-specific expertise, support, and disease tracking
  - Free-living amebae (*Naegleria fowleri*, *Balamuthia*, and *Acanthamoeba*)
  - Protozoan parasites (*Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia*)

The Domestic Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Epidemiology Team:

- Operates the [Waterborne Disease and Outbreak Surveillance System](#)
- Investigates outbreaks of waterborne disease by interviewing ill people and working with state and CDC laboratories to test clinical and water samples
- Analyzes data to identify the causes, sources, and risk factors of waterborne disease and outbreaks and determine methods for control and prevention
- Gives state and local health departments training, resources, and consultation to build their ability to identify, investigate, and prevent waterborne disease and outbreaks
- Develops estimates of the magnitude and health burden of waterborne disease in the U.S.
- Runs CDC's [Healthy Swimming](#) Program
- Guides development of the [Model Aquatic Health Code](#)
- Provides guidance and tools for storing and treating drinking water and responding to [water-related emergencies](#), disasters, and severe weather events
- Provides medical consultation and epidemiologic expertise related to free-living amebae
- Analyzes national data reported for [cryptosporidiosis](#) and [giardiasis](#)
- Promotes improved public health through [education and communication](#)

For additional information visit [CDC's Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases \(DFWED\) website](#) at: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncezid/dfwed/waterborne/domestic.html>

The Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services (DEEHS) within the CDC National Center for Environmental Health provides support for drinking water programs, recreational water support for environmental health practitioners, and assistance addressing environmental components of waterborne disease outbreaks. Specific products and resources include:

- Build [capacity to implement evidence-based interventions](#) among state, tribal, local and territorial drinking water programs.
- [Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response](#) – Free course for public health responders addressing the environmental health impacts of emergencies and disasters. The course has modules on several topics, including potable water and wastewater.

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