



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Peter DeMarco
(909) 996-0220
pete.demarco@iapmo.org

New Guide Addresses Stagnant Water in Buildings with Low Occupancy

Ontario, Calif. (Oct. 7, 2020) — At a time when many buildings are not fully occupied due to COVID-19, the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) have developed a [guide](#) to help building managers address water system stagnation.

Stagnation within building water systems is a concern in periods of low or no occupancy. When water does not move through the system, water quality issues may arise at an outlet, a group of outlets or throughout an entire building water system, causing potential health risks.

Titled *Responding to Stagnation in Buildings with Reduced or No Water Use*, the guide “provides a decision-making framework for building managers to design responses to building water system stagnation,” said William Rhoads, a co-author of the guide and a post-doctoral researcher at Virginia Tech.

Peter DeMarco, executive vice president of Advocacy and Research at The IAPMO Group (International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials), said the new document provides essential guidance at a crucial time.

“As buildings reopen across the country, it will be critically important for building owners and facility managers to actively address water quality concerns in plumbing systems due to stagnation,” he said. “We appreciated the opportunity to work with Dr. Rhoads and the other authors on the development of this important guidance document.”

Because of the many differences in building water system operation and design, one set of instructions is not appropriate for all buildings. The guide provides a framework for building managers and a resource that water systems can utilize in supporting the business community in their service areas.

ABOUT AWWA

Established in 1881, the American Water Works Association is the largest nonprofit, scientific and educational association dedicated to managing and treating water, the world’s most important resource. With approximately 51,000 members, AWWA provides solutions to improve public health, protect the environment, strengthen the economy and enhance our quality of life.

ABOUT IAPMO

Founded in 1926, the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials is a global leader in providing Uniform Codes for the plumbing and mechanical industry. IAPMO protects health and safety, supports sustainability and emerging technology, and delivers code education.

#

Sponsor of the Uniform Codes, IAPMO – The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials – works in concert with government and industry for safe, sanitary plumbing and mechanical systems. Learn more about IAPMO at www.iapmo.org.