



Boil Water Notice

UPDATED: 02/2014

****TROPICAL STORM/HURRICANE INFORMATION SHEET****

Due to flooding and damage caused by (*insert name of storm*), the Florida Department of Health (DOH) is advising residents under a boil water notice to take precautions against unclean water, mainly those with flooded private wells. If your well has been covered with flood water, your well water may contain disease-causing organisms and may not be safe to drink.

DOH recommends one of the following for private well owners:

- Boil water before use, holding it at a rolling boil for at least 1 minute before using it for drinking, cooking, making ice, brushing teeth, or washing dishes; or
- Disinfect water by adding 8 drops (about 1/8 teaspoon – this would form a puddle about the size of a dime) of plain unscented household bleach (4 to 6 percent active ingredients) per gallon of water and then let it stand for 30 minutes. If the water is cloudy after 30 minutes, repeat the procedure. Use a container that has a cap or cover for disinfecting and storing water to be used for drinking. This will prevent contamination; or
- Use bottled water, especially for mixing baby formula.

After the flooding subsides:

- Disinfect your well using the procedures available from your local health department or provided by the Department of Health at <http://www.floridahealth.gov/healthy-environments/drinking-water/Flooded-wells.html>; and
- If the service is available, have your water tested by your county health department or by a laboratory certified by the state to perform a drinking water analysis for coliform bacteria.

For more information, please contact your county health department or visit www.floridahealth.gov or www.floridadisaster.org.