



UPDATED: 08/2011

TROPICAL STORM/HURRICANE INFORMATION SHEET

STOCK BOIL WATER MESSAGE

Due to flooding and damage caused by the storm, the Florida Department of Health (DOH) is advising individuals under a boil water notice to take precautions against contaminated water. If your well has been covered with flood water, your water may contain disease-causing organisms and may not be safe to drink.

DOH recommends one of the following for private well owners:

- Use bottled water, especially for mixing baby formula; or
- If power is available, boil water before use, holding it at rolling boil for at least one minute before using it for drinking, washing, cooking, etc.; or
- If power is not available, disinfect water by adding 8 drops (about 1/8 tsp – this would form a puddle about the size of a dime) of plain unscented household bleach (4 to 6%) 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.

After the flooding subsides:

- Disinfect your well using the procedures available from your local health department or provided on the Department of Health at <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/environment/water/manual/floodinf.htm>; and
- Have your water tested by your local health department or by a laboratory certified by the State to perform a drinking water analysis for coliform bacteria.
- Continue to use bottled/boiled/disinfected water until lab tests confirm the water is safe to drink.

For further information, please contact your local county health department or visit www.doh.state.fl.us or www.FloridaDisaster.org.

The Florida Emergency Information Line: 1-800-342-3557.