Boil Water Notice

**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](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](http://www.floridahealth.gov) or [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org).