Washburn County Health Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WATER TEST KITS FOR PRIVATE WELLS AFFECTED BY FLOODING

Well Water Testing Kits for private wells affected by flooding are now available.

- Kits can be picked up at the Washburn County Health Department, which is located at 222 Oak Street in Spooner. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-12pm, and 1:00pm-4:30 pm.
- Kits will also be available at the Minong Town Hall beginning Monday, July 25th. Call 715-466-5916 for office hours.
- The water testing is free of charge, but will require shipping. **The water sample must be analyzed within 48 hours of collection,** so Express mail is recommended if using the Post Office.
- If your well was submerged under flood waters, well water testing can be done 1 week after waters have receded and the well has been "shocked" or decontaminated according to DNR recommendations. See decontamination procedures at the DNR website. If the well water test is safe then retesting is advised in one month.
- Call 715-635-4400 and ask to speak to a Public Health Nurse if you have any questions.

If contamination is found, disinfect your well/water supply. See the guide on **Well Disinfection at DNR website at** http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wells/flood.html
Flood Toolkit: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p0/p00631.pdf
Information link to CDC: http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/index.asp
Washburn County Emergency Management website:
http://www.co.washburn.wi.us/departments/emergency-management
See: "Private Well Testing after Flooding" on our website for well water use guidance. Do not consume well water after well or surrounding areas have been flooded