

Advisory: Private Wells That Are Impacted By Flood Water

1. An alternate supply of known safe water should be obtained for:
 - Drinking and cooking;
 - Brushing Teeth or soaking false teeth;
 - Washing fruit and vegetables;
 - Making of food and drink; and,
 - Making ice cubes.
2. In most situations, the impacted well water can continue to be used for:
 - Operating the plumbing system;
 - Bathing for adults, adolescents and older children but avoid swallowing the water; Note: Younger children and infants should be sponged bathed.
 - Washing dishes in a dishwasher if there is a sani-cycle that reaches at least 45 °C for 20 minutes; 50 °C for 5 minutes, 72 °C for 1 minute, or 82 °C for 12 seconds.
 - Hand washing of dishes and utensils can be done by first boiling the water for at least one minute, at a rolling boil **OR** by soaking the items in a bleach water solution (approximately 2 tablespoons of bleach per gallon or 10 ml of bleach per litre of water) for at least two minutes after being washed to kill any bacteria which may be present. (Note: Do not mix bleach with soaps and detergents)
3. An alternate supply of safe water includes:
 - Bottled water;
 - Water hauled from a safe community source;
 - Water from a water vendor that uses a safe source or water.

(Note: Ensure that water hauling and storage containers are properly cleaned & sanitized prior to using.)

Additional Information:

Water Testing

Free bacteriological testing of well water is available through the Ministry of Health. Contact your local health region for more information and to obtain sample bottles and forms.

Water Sampling

The Water Security Agency (WSA) is offering water sampling services to residents affected by flooding. After the water has receded and the well has been shock chlorinated, the WSA will sample the well water free of charge. Contact WSA at (306) 444-4444 for more information.

For Well Disinfection Procedures visit SaskH2O at the site below:

http://www.saskh2o.ca/WaterInformationFactSheet_Drinking_Private_Health.asp

(Click onto the High or Low Level Chlorine links beneath Best Practices)

Should you have any questions regarding the safe usage of your impacted water supply, please contact your local

<http://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/understanding-the-health-care-system/saskatchewan-health-regions/regional-public-health-inspectors>.