

PRIVATE WELLS
AND
FLOODING IN TAMA COUNTY

If you know or suspect that your private well has been compromised by flood waters ***STOP*** using your well water immediately for drinking, cooking, laundry and bathing.

Obtain water known to be safe from another source or use bottled water. ***DO NOT*** boil your flood contaminated well water. Boiling flood contaminated well water will concentrate any chemicals that may be in the water.

After flood waters have receded and it is safe to check your well, it is important to “Shock Chlorinate” your well. Information on how to do “Shock Chlorination” is available at the office of Tama County Public Health and Home Care.

Two days after chlorination has occurred, the water in the well needs to be tested by a laboratory. Continue to use bottled water or a safe water supply for drinking, cooking, laundry and bathing until a laboratory has verified that your well water is safe to drink.

For information on well chlorination and water testing, call Bill Christensen at Tama County Public Health and Home Care, 641-484-4788 or toll free 1-866-484-4788.