



NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

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(4/15/25) Southern 7 Health Department Encourages Water Well Testing Following Recent Flooding

As a result of recent flooding throughout the region, Southern 7 Health Department's Environmental Health Services division is encouraging residents with water wells to have their water supply tested to rule out possible contamination.

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), poorly built or maintained wells can allow surface contamination to get into the well. The groundwater the well uses may also be contaminated by various sources. Some contaminants can harm people's health, and most can only be detected by laboratory testing.

Residents should test their water well when there are known problems with well water in the area, you have experienced problems near the well, like flooding, land disturbance, or waste disposal, you replaced or repaired any part of the well system, and/or you notice changes in the taste, color, or smell of the water.

Those wanting to test their water well can purchase a test kit from Southern 7 Health Department for \$20 or arrange for a Southern 7 Health Sanitarian to come to your home to collect your sample for \$50 (prices may change without notice). Then either you or the sanitarian can send it to the IDPH lab.

Inside the kit will be instructions on how to collect your water sample into the provided container along with a postage-paid mailing label to send it to the IDPH lab. Testing for E.coli and Coliform will be conducted by the lab.

A sanitarian will contact you with your results. If your results are less than favorable, Southern 7 Health Department can provide you with information on how to disinfect your well.

If you have any questions regarding checking the safety of your well water, contact Miranda Adams, Southern 7 Environmental Health Director, at 618-634-2297 ext. 973114 or at madams@s7hd.org.

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