



Safety Measures for Private Wells Impacted by Flooding

After flooding, private well owners should take actions to ensure their private water supply is safe for consumption. When a water supply well has been affected by flood waters, the water within the well may be contaminated with waterborne pathogens (germs) and/or other contaminants that can cause illness in humans and pets. The Seneca County Health Department is recommending the following precautions be taken for homeowners whose primary source of drinking water is from a private well or spring.

- If your well has been covered by flood waters, even temporarily, you should consider it to be contaminated and not consume it or use it for any purpose until testing is completed
- Use bottled water.
- To obtain collection bottles and instructions for well water testing contact the following:

SENECA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
WATERLOO WATER TREATMENT PLANT
WATERLOO TOWN OFFICES
ROMULUS TOWN HALL

315-539-1945
315-585-9811
315-539-9131
607-869-9326

Take the following steps to get a flooded well back into service safely:

- Assessment
- Repair
- Flushing
- Disinfection
- Flushing
- Sampling

Full disinfection instructions are available at

https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/flooding/docs/private_wells.pdf

If flooding and groundwater contamination is extensive, the well may be susceptible to recontamination. You may wish to consider retesting the well water again after several weeks.

Additional information on well disinfection is available by contacting the Seneca County Environmental Health Department at (315) 539-1945 and at <https://www.co.seneca.ny.us/departments/community-services/environmental-health/> and on Facebook @SenecaCountyHealth.

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Seneca County

Health Department

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Division of Environmental
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To achieve healthy communities and safe environments for all.



Public Health
Seneca County, NY