



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Department of Public Health

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## **Environmental Health Tests Well Water Affected by Floods**

FAYETTEVILLE – In response to the flooding associated with Hurricane Matthew, the Cumberland County Department of Health Environmental Health Division will test drinking water from private wells.

Environmental Health has received emergency water testing kits from the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services. Following guidance from NCDHHS, inspectors are concentrating on wells that were submerged by flood water caused by Hurricane Matthew.

If your well was submerged, health officials recommend you disinfect the well based on the measurements in the chart available at [http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=2a3e85e1-67db-43b0-a4d6-f9278a6115ce&groupId=38325](http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=2a3e85e1-67db-43b0-a4d6-f9278a6115ce&groupId=38325).

If you cannot disinfect your well, health officials recommend you contact a licensed well contractor to properly disinfect any wells affected by flooding.

After the well has been disinfected, contact Environmental Health for water sampling.

“If the flood waters were over the well, more than likely the well is contaminated and you need to disinfect. Once that that process is completed, then we will test to ensure your water is safe,” said Environmental Health Director Daniel Ortiz.

If you have any questions about the disinfecting process or to schedule a water sample, call 910-433-3668 or 910-433-3667. Environmental Health is located in the Historic Courthouse, 130 Gillespie St., Fayetteville.

*If you would like more information about the Cumberland County Department of Public Health’s programs and services, health-related data, or community resources, please call 910-433-3600 or visit with someone at the information desk, or visit our website at [co.cumberland.nc.us/health.aspx#](http://co.cumberland.nc.us/health.aspx#). Comments are welcome and can be submitted on our website at [co.cumberland.nc.us/health/comment\\_form.aspx](http://co.cumberland.nc.us/health/comment_form.aspx). The Health Department is located at 1235 Ramsey St. in Fayetteville.*