

Drink clean, safe water and eat safe, uncontaminated food.

- Listen for water reports from local authorities to find out if your water is safe for drinking and bathing.
- Throw away any food that may have come in contact with flood or storm water. Cans that are not dented or damaged can be cleaned and sanitized.
- Throw away bottled water if it has been submerged in flood or storm water.
- CDC recommends discarding wooden cutting boards, baby bottle nipples, and pacifiers. These items cannot be properly sanitized if they have come into contact with floodwaters.
- Clean and sanitize food-contact surfaces in a four-step process:
 - Wash with soap and warm, clean water.
 - Rinse with clean water.
 - Sanitize by immersing for 1 minute in a solution of 1 teaspoon of chlorine bleach (5.25%, unscented) per gallon of clean water.
 - Allow to air dry.
- If a water advisory has been issued, use only bottled, boiled, or treated water for drinking, cooking, food preparation, and hand washing.
- If water smells of petroleum don't use it for drinking, cooking or bathing.

Cleanup of Flood Water:

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/cleanupwater.asp>

Keeping Food Safe:

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/ResourcesForYou/Consumers/ucm076881.htm>

Personal Hygiene and Hand Washing After a Disaster:

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/sanitation.asp>

Safely protect your home from mold.

- When returning to a home that has been flooded, be aware that mold may be present and may be a health risk for your family.
- Clean up and dry out the building quickly (within 24 to 48 hours). Open doors and windows. Use fans to dry out the building.
- To *prevent* mold growth, clean wet items and surfaces with detergent and water.
- When in doubt, take it out! Remove all porous items that have been wet for more than 48 hours and that cannot be thoroughly cleaned and dried, including
 - carpeting and carpet padding;
 - upholstery and wallpaper;
 - drywall, floor and ceiling tiles, and insulation material;
 - some clothing, leather, paper, and wood, and food.

