



# MAHONING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

PREVENT · PROMOTE · PROTECT

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<b>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: July 15, 2019</b>	Contact: Kelly Fertig
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## **Recent Heavy Rains and Flooding in the Area Cause Concern for Well Water Safety.** *If Flood Water Reached or Covered the Top of the Well, It's Recommended to Have It Checked for Contamination.*

In light of the recent flooding issues from excessive rainfall in the Mahoning Valley, Mahoning County Public Health wants to remind the public that they have services available to ensure residents have continued access to safe drinking water.

“Many areas have experienced flooding due to saturated soil,” said Ryan Tekac, Mahoning County Public Health Environmental Health Division Director. “Flooding can pose a contamination risk to your private drinking water well with sediment and bacteria. You can ask to have your well water checked by your local health department to ensure it is safe to drink. The Mahoning County Laboratory Services can provide instructions on testing your private water well to ensure it’s safe.”

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), residents with private water wells can experience contaminated water if wells are not tightly capped or properly grouted. Wells that are not properly sealed can allow sediment and flood water to enter causing contamination.

The CDC also notes that fuel and other chemicals are common during flooding. If your water smells like fuel or has a chemical odor, you can contact your local health department for assistance. Boiling water tainted with fuel or toxic chemicals will not remove those contaminants and make the water safe for consumption.

If you would like more information on testing your well water for contamination, visit [mahoninghealth.org](http://mahoninghealth.org) or call 1-800-873-6243. If you believe your water is contaminated in any way, drink bottled water or use another safe supply of water until you know your water is safe to drink.

### ABOUT MAHONING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Mahoning County Public Health works to protect the public’s health and to ensure conditions in which all people can live healthy lives. Mahoning County Public Health offers a variety of services from immunizations to environmental and community health programs. For a complete list of services visit [mahoninghealth.org](http://mahoninghealth.org).

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