



# COUNTY OF SAN BENITO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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[www.cosb.us](http://www.cosb.us)

January 12, 2017

Ray Espinosa, **County Administrative Officer**  
Barbara Thompson, Assistant County Administrative Officer  
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Louie Valdez, Management Analyst III  
Dina Bies, Executive Secretary to CAO/Safety Coordinator

## WATER CONTAMINATION HEALTH ALERT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
12 January 2017

**CONTACT:** Louie Valdez, Public Information Officer  
Tel: (520) 331-2856

(San Benito County) **Out of an abundance of caution and** due to recent flooding, San Benito County Officials are recommending that the homes residing within Lovers Lane, Frye Lane and San Felipe Road to Shore Road have the potential for water contaminants to be present in individual well water systems which could include sewage runoff, agricultural runoff, pesticides, and other potentially hazardous materials.

It is advised for those residing in these areas:

- **Do Not Use:** Water is unsafe for any purpose. Use alternative water source.
- **Do Not Drink:** Use alternative water sources, such as bottled water, for drinking, food preparation, washing clothes, brushing teeth, or making ice.
- **Do Not Wash with this water:** Water is not safe for bathing or washing clothes.
- **Do not let pets or livestock drink this water.**

**Boiling, freezing, filtering or letting water stand does not eliminate contamination.**

Water is being made available for all residents of the above listed areas initially via door to door delivery and will be made available and further water will be available at the Dunneville Café and Market 5970 San Felipe Road, between the hours 9am to 7pm.

San Benito County will update the affected areas as the situation progresses.

For additional information about directives in this alert or drinking water contaminants please call the Environmental Health Department at (831) 636-4035 during normal business hours or 831-636-4100 after business hours.

In support of these efforts, San Benito County has proclaimed a local state of emergency, and is requesting that the governor also support this request.

## Proclamation of Existence of a Local Emergency (by Director of Emergency Services)

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 833 of the County of San Benito empowers the Director of Emergency Services (County Administrative Officer) of the County of San Benito to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when said County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and when the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services of the County of San Benito does hereby find:

- ❖ That conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within said County in that commencing on or about 12:00 p.m.; on January 6, 2017, the following conditions exist:

Month, Day, Year

Flooding in parts of the County due to heavy rainfall

There is a potential health concern to the residents of the flood effected area due to possible contaminated water

There is damage and potential damage to county owned infrastructure including bridges and roads

Conditions in various Creeks and River in San Benito County may require emergency flood fight activities and repairs

- ❖ That the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency; and
- ❖ That the Board of Supervisors is not in session (and cannot immediately be called into session),
- ❖ That the Director of Emergency Services is unavailable

WHEREAS, the effects of the storm are beyond the capabilities of the County of San Benito therefore the County is requesting that the Governor of the State of California Proclaim a State of Emergency for the County of San Benito and requests assistance including but not limited to California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA), Federal Individual Assistance Act, and US Small Business Administration disaster declaration.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** that a local emergency now exists throughout said County; and

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the emergency organization of this County shall be those prescribed by state law, the charter, ordinances, resolutions, and approved plans of the County of San Benito.

By Director of Emergency Services:

  
Kevin O'Neill, Deputy Director of Emergency Services

Date: 1/12/17

Approved as to form:

  
Barbara Thompson, Acting Assistant County Counsel

Date: 1/12/17