



SAN BENITO COUNTY

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
Healthy People in Healthy Communities

FLOOD CLEAN UP SAFETY PRECAUTIONS **HEALTH ADVISORY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
13January2017

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Tel: 831-637-5367

(San Benito County) Due to recent flooding conditions residents may be starting the process of cleaning up. When cleaning up after a flood please take the necessary precautions to ensure you and your family are returning to a healthy indoor environment.

Consider your personal safety and be cautious by taking the following steps:

- Wear protective clothing. Rubber gloves and boots will help protect you from bacteria and possible infections.
- Avoid putting your hands near your face or mouth when working.
- Be sure the main power source to your home or business is turned off.
- Check for shifts in the house or building and cracks in the foundation.
- Open doors and windows to help dry out the rooms.
- Remove any standing water. Water soaked grounds can cause a collapse of basement walls.
- Hose down walls as quickly as possible and follow up with a second hosing using one cup of household bleach to five gallons of water. Disinfect surfaces, like shelves.
- Appliances that contain insulation cannot be easily cleaned. Have them checked by a service person before attempting to use.
- Remove all soaked materials and furnishings. Fully upholstered furnishings and mattresses cannot be cleaned and should be destroyed to avoid health problems.

**PUBLIC HEALTH
SERVICES**
439 Fourth Street
Hollister, CA 95023
831-637-5367

**MEDICAL THERAPY
UNIT**
761 South Street
Hollister, CA 95023
831-637-1989

**ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH SERVICES**
1111 San Felipe Road, Ste 102
Hollister, CA 95023
831-636-4035

**HEALTH EDUCATION
PROGRAMS**
439 Fourth Street
Hollister, CA 95023
831-637-5367



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- Carpets and rugs may be cleaned. Permanently attached carpeting should be removed before attempting to clean. Clean items out of doors or have them done professionally.
- Items like sheets, bedspreads, curtains and draperies should be washed with very hot water and detergents, or professionally dry-cleaned.
- Any flooded food items should be discarded unless they are in undamaged cans or commercially sealed glass jars. Sanitize the container before opening it.
- Sanitize pots, pans, utensils, dishes, glassware and other items you intend to keep.

If you have individual well water system please be reminded to get it tested for contamination.

For more information, residents may call the Environmental Health Department at (831) 636-4035 or the Public Health Department at (831) 637-5367.

PUBLIC HEALTH

MEDICAL THERAPY

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Health Alert: Warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: Provides information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.