

**RECOVERY OPERATIONS CENTER  
MARIN COUNTY/OPERATIONAL AREA  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 266  
San Rafael, CA 94903**

**Marin County Recovery Operations  
Public Health Information Update**

**For Immediate Release**

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For those people exposed to flood waters which may have been contaminated, there is a very small risk of developing a skin infection if your skin had an open wound or was not protected. Also there is a very small risk for gastrointestinal illness (e.g. fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain and cramps) if there was inadvertent ingestion of some flood water. If you do develop skin or gastrointestinal symptoms following exposure to the flood waters, please be advised to consult with your personal medical provider for further diagnosis and treatment as well as appropriate immunizations. Regarding immunizations, it is recommended for persons with skin wounds or broken skin who are exposed to contaminated flood water to receive a tetanus booster if it has been more than 5 years since their last tetanus immunization. Otherwise, the tetanus vaccine is recommended every ten years. Hepatitis A vaccine is not recommended for people exposed to the flood water however you can receive more information about this vaccine from you provider also.

For more information you may wish to visit the following websites:

[www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/after.asp](http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/after.asp)

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

[www.bayarea-redcross.org/](http://www.bayarea-redcross.org/)

[www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/flood/cleaning-flood-HVAC.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/flood/cleaning-flood-HVAC.html)

If you have additional questions, please contact the Department of Public Health at 415-473-7805. Staff members are available to respond to health related concerns and communicable disease inquires.