



MARION COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Marion County Residents Feel the Effects of Flooding on their Homes and Businesses in Relation to Mold following Flooded Basements and Other Living Spaces

Heavy amounts of rainfall have impacted all areas within Marion County and as a result have left many residential and commercial properties inundated with flooded basements and crawlspaces. Also potential for main floor flooding exists with more rainfall and flash flooding events. Marion County Environmental Health recommends that all residents follow safe practices while experiencing potential hazards within their home including cleaning and disinfecting flood or water contaminated items within their homes. Remember to use the guideline, "If in Doubt, Throw it Out" while cleaning and discarding your household items. Rising flood water may contain potential pathogens as well as chemicals that could impact your health and cause other public health concerns. Wet or flooded basements have the potential to grow mold if the water is not removed or damp conditions persist. Please contact the Marion County Environmental Office regarding any questions regarding proper cleanup or issues surrounding potential mold growth. Also, please refer to the Iowa Department of Public Health's website for flood fact sheets as well as flooded basement information.

<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/EmergencyResponse/Flooding.aspx>