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## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### *Flooding in Madison County increases risk of tetanus exposure; health district recommends tetanus shot if not up-to-date*

**Madison County** – Just because the rain has stopped doesn't mean the danger of flooding has ended. Eastern Idaho Public Health District (EIPHD) is coordinating with the City of Rexburg, including the Public Works Department, and Madison County Fire Department to respond to Tuesday's flooding situation.

From a public health standpoint, the flooding in Madison County may have put people at risk for tetanus. Exposure of an open wound to flood water can increase the risk of tetanus. EIPHD is recommending that individuals check their vaccine records to see if they are up to date on their tetanus vaccine. If you have not had a tetanus shot in the past 10 years, consult your healthcare provider or the health district about receiving one. If you are unaware of your status, err on the side of caution and receive a tetanus shot.

Tetanus vaccine is available at EIPHD's Madison County office in Rexburg. The address is 314 North 3<sup>rd</sup> East. The office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Appointments are encouraged, but not required. Insurance and Medicaid can be billed for immunizations. Reduced cost vaccine is also available for uninsured individuals. For more information about tetanus vaccine and immunizations, please call the Rexburg office at 356-3239. For information about tetanus, you can visit <http://www.cdc.gov/tetanus/index.html>.

Flooding can also create issues with sewage systems and this can be a hazardous situation for homeowners. It may lead to a back-up of sewage in the home and lack of sanitation until the system is fixed. There are several local cleaning and restoration companies that can assist homeowners in the cleanup of sewage and/or flooding. For more information about flood disaster response and clean up information, please visit <http://nasdonline.org/document/2028/d001564/flooded-private-sewage-systems-safety-sanitation-and-clean.html>. Affected individuals may also contact the City of Rexburg at 359-3020. More information is also available at EIPHD's website ([www.phd7.idaho.gov](http://www.phd7.idaho.gov)) and Facebook page (Eastern Idaho Public Health District).

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