



Calvert County NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Oct. 29, 2012 (8:30 a.m.)
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Water Safety Information Statement from the Calvert County Health Department

PRINCE FREDERICK, MD – Oct. 29, 2011 –The Calvert County Health Department reminds residents that drilled wells are subject to saltwater and surface water contamination if the well head is submerged. If you suspect your well head has been submerged, the Division of Environmental Health recommends following the procedure outlined below:

CAUTION: Your well operates on electricity; electrical shock is possible if care is not taken during this procedure. If you are uncomfortable performing this procedure, contact a professional for assistance.

1. Pump off your well. Attach a garden hose to the outside of your house and run the water for four hours.
2. After completing step one, remove the cap of the well and pour one gallon of regular bleach, without added fragrances, into the well. Begin pumping off the well until the odor of bleach is noticed. Once you smell bleach, stop pumping and let the water stay in the plumbing for 24 hours.
3. After 24 hours, pump off the well until the bleach odor subsides.
4. Lastly, with this procedure completed contact the Calvert County Division of Environmental Health, when normal working hours resume, for water sampling at 410-535-3922 (Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) **NOTE: It is recommended that you DO NOT DRINK water from your wells until this procedure is complete. Bottled water is recommended as an alternative.**

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The county has established the following public information numbers: 410-535-0396 or 410-535-0314. These lines will be staffed until the immediate event passes. During regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), call 410-535-1600, ext. 2638. Questions or requests for information can also be sent by email to oem@co.cal.md.us. Visit the Calvert County Government website at www.co.cal.md.us for updates.

Further hurricane preparedness information is available through the Maryland Emergency Management Agency online at www.mema.state.md.us. For the most up-to-date forecasts on the track of Hurricane Sandy, visit the National Weather Service at www.weather.gov.

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Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to nearly 90,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, energy, advanced manufacturing and administrative services.