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NEWS RELEASE

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KCHD Mobile Team Set Up At Quincy Mall To Administer Free Tetanus Shots To Flood Victims

QUINCY, WEST VIRGINIA – In response to recent flooding in Eastern Kanawha County a team from the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department will be administering free tetanus vaccines in Quincy this week for those affected by recent flooding.

The mobile shot clinic will be at the Quincy Mall today until 4 p.m., and the rest of the week – Wednesday through Friday – from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“Floodwaters carry disease-causing organisms that can lead to serious illness or even death,” explained Dr. Steven Eshenaur, KCHD’s Health Officer. “Foremost, stay out of the floodwaters. If you’ve already been in them or are conducting cleanup now, please make sure your tetanus shot is up to date. If you can’t recall when you had your last one, just get another to be on the safe side. Tetanus is a serious disease and is easily preventable. If you get a wound – small or large – tend to it immediately. Bacteria can invade your body through the smallest punctures and scratches.”

Residents of homes with private or community wells are advised to contact KCHD for testing of any well, pump, springs, cisterns or pipes that have been exposed to floodwaters. Private water system testing of in-use wells serving flood-impacted homes will be free. Call 304-348-8050 to make an appointment.

KCHD also will have Environmental Health staff in the affected area this week to answer questions, gather samples for tests on private and community wells, and

help provide public health safety guidance for businesses so they can reopen as soon as possible.

Eshenaur advised that if drinking water has been exposed to floodwater, take immediate precautions. “Floodwater is nasty stuff and it can make you very ill. It can get into water systems, linger, and make you and your family extremely sick.”

If a boil-water advisory has been issued on a public water system, residents are encouraged to follow those recommendations.

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