

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: June 12, 2008 Afternoon report
CONTACT: Karen Brown, Fillmore County Coordinator/
Public Information Officer
PHONE: 507.765.4566 CELL: 507.951.5053
SUBJECT: Flooding update– Fillmore County

Fillmore County Public Health located at 902 Houston Street, Preston, MN will be accepting water samples for nitrate testing from **June 16-20 (8:00 AM to 4:30 PM)**. Anyone with a private well in Fillmore County is eligible for this free service. Homes in flooded areas are strongly encouraged to test their wells for nitrates. Well water should be brought to Public Health in a glass jar or plastic Ziploc bag.

Final estimates of \$2,680,836 of public infrastructure damages in Fillmore County have been submitted to Governor Pawlenty with a request to petition President Bush to declare Fillmore County a major disaster area. Federal Emergency Management Agency teams (FEMA) are scheduled to be in the County today to make their assessment of the flood damages.

Residents in Fillmore County who have needs due to the recent heavy rains and flooding should contact the Red Cross at 507.287.2200 for assessment and for help. Residents should also notify their city/township officials. If a Presidential Disaster declaration is approved for both public and individual assistance, FEMA assistance to residents for those losses may be possible. A Red Cross assessment assists FEMA in identifying areas of need. Farm Services Agency should be contacted at 507.765.3878 about agricultural losses.

END