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Mayors Advisory

September 2, 2011

Re: State Health Department Opens Call Center for Public Health Concerns in Aftermath of Hurricane Irene, Flooding and Power Outages

Dear Mayor:

Earlier today, Health and Senior Services Commissioner Mary O'Dowd announced the opening of a toll-free Public Health Call Center in response to general health concerns in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene. The Public Health Call Center will provide callers with information about prevention and treatment of mold, disposal of spoiled food due to power outages and water concerns.

To reach health experts in the Public Health Information Call Center, the toll free number is: 1-866-234-0964.

The call center will be open from 8 am to 8 pm Monday through Friday and during the weekend and Labor Day Monday from 10 am to 5 pm.

The call center is being staffed by health experts from the Department's Division of Epidemiology, Environmental and Occupational Health who can answer questions about prevention/treatment of mold growth in flooded homes and businesses, disposal of food spoiled as a result of power outages and concerns about water that needs to be treated to make it safe for drinking and other uses.

Additional information about hurricane and flood recovery is available at www.state.nj.us/health/er/natural.shtml

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director