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*Natural Resources District*

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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For Immediate Release

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### **Tri-Basin NRD Helps Homeowners Protect Water Quality After Floods**

Flooding caused by this spring's heavy rains can contaminate privately-owned household wells. Tri-Basin NRD is encouraging private well owners to test their drinking water for pollutants.

State and federal laws require municipal water systems and other public water suppliers to test their water regularly to insure that their water is free from contaminants. Tri-Basin NRD wants rural residents in Gosper, Phelps and Kearney Counties to have confidence that their household drinking water is as safe as public water supplies. Tri-Basin NRD offers rural residents free household drinking water tests for nitrates and coliform bacteria.

Any district resident who uses a household water well can pick up a free water testing kit from the Tri-Basin NRD office in Holdrege. The kits are also available at the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service offices in Elwood, Minden and Holdrege. Kits include instructions for obtaining water samples. Test results are sent to the Tri-Basin NRD office, where they are recorded in a water quality database. The results are forwarded to homeowners, along with information about protecting water quality.

For more information on this program, please contact Tri-Basin NRD at 308-995-6688 or 1-877-995-6688.