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Approximately 12,000 Flood Clean-up Kits Distributed in a Week

Officials strongly urge residents to clean areas that came into contact with floodwater

The City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) has distributed approximately 12,000 flood clean-up kits to residents impacted by the July 22 storm, health officials said Saturday. The kits were made available by an emergency purchase from a private vendor, Wisconsin Emergency Management System, and generous donations by the United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Northwest Side Community Development Corporation.

In addition, Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful donated several thousand trash bags to help with clean-up efforts.

On Thursday, health officials strongly urged residents to immediately clean, disinfect and thoroughly dry all areas that floodwater touched within their home to prevent the growth of mold. They also reminded residents to remove damaged ceiling tiles and wallboards, and Heating Ventilation and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) systems, including ductwork or furnaces that were submerged in floodwater may require cleaning and disinfection.

Excessive moisture or water indoors promotes mold growth and can cause potential health effects in people with allergies, asthma, and other respiratory ailments.

Mayor Barrett along with the Office of Emergency Management mobilized a volunteer reception center to assist Milwaukee residents who are elderly, disabled or ill and in need of assistance with flood-related problems, including debris clean-up in basements. Individuals with special needs can call 286-CITY to request assistance.

MHD's "Flood Clean-up Tips" is available at www.milwaukee.gov/health and the City of Milwaukee home page: www.milwaukee.gov.

Think Health. Act Now!