

Flooding leaves Mad River polluted and wells contaminated

by Katrina VanTyne

Because of the recent flooding, some water sources in the Mad River Valley have been contaminated and could be hazardous if not used with precaution.

Health department officials are advising people with private wells to "assume that their drinking water is contaminated and take the following precautions: boil water for five minutes to make it safe for drinking, cooking, making juice or ice, washing fruit and brushing teeth or use bottled water."

Anyone who has had flood/river waters up to the top of or almost over their wellcap should assume their well is contaminated.

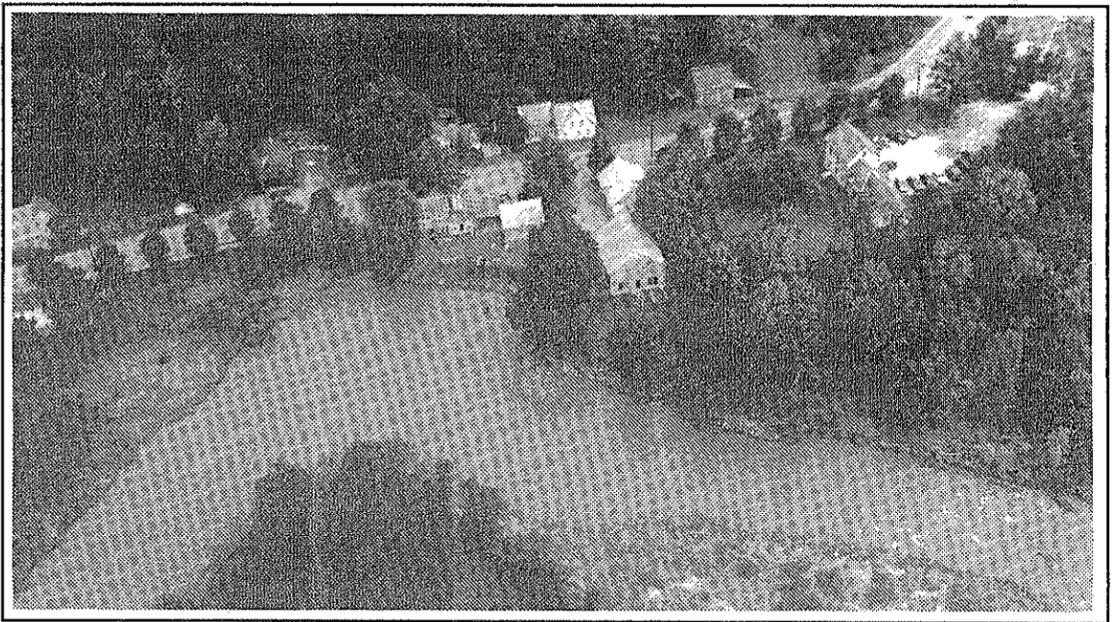
The Vermont Department of

Health has announced that it will provide free testing of private wells that may have been contaminated by the flood.

The H.A. Manosh Corporation is also offering free well inspections and chlorinations (needed for contaminated wells) for anyone whose well may have been contaminated by flood waters.

The Vermont Health Department has asked that people "do not swim or wade in rivers and streams affected by flood waters until confirmed safe from bacteriological contamination, floating debris and fast currents."

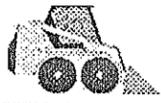
"Because of the flood, there has been a high level of contamination to the water in the river and people need to be aware that it could be danger-



An aerial view of Waitsfield Village where flooding may have left wells contaminated. At right side of picture is I-100 building with a swollen river coming from Irasville.

Mountainside Excavating

Complete Bobcat Services since 1981
Septic & Drainage Systems, Retaining Walls



w/Loader

Grade Yards & Driveways,
Backfill Foundations, etc...



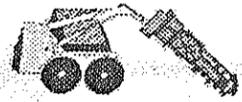
w/Backhoe

Excavate for Frostwalls,
Sonnatubes, Culverts, etc...



w/Auger

Drill for and install
all types of fencing



w/Trencher

Dig for and install
Power, Cable TV, & Phone Lines

Rick Scarzello 496-3462

North Fayston, Vt.



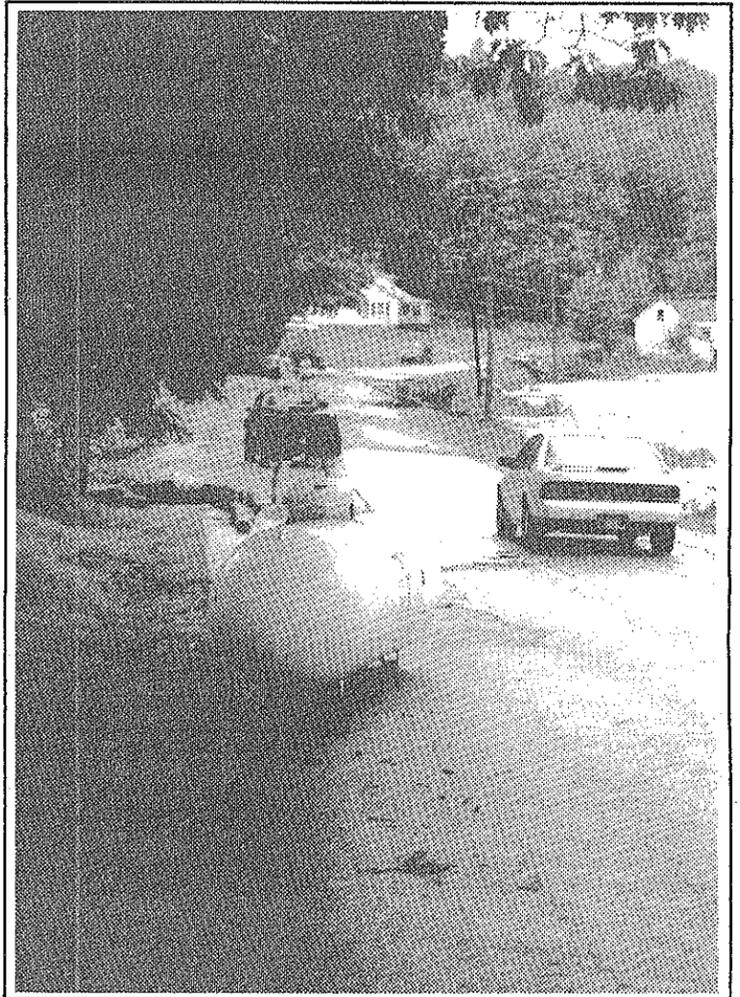
ous," said Kinney Connell, president of Friends of the Mad River.

"The water is turbid which means there is a lot of sediment or dirt in the water, it's no longer clear; it has been contaminated by gas tanks, diesel fuel, failed septic systems, household appliances such as microwaves, windows, sharp objects etc., and there is a lot of oil and gas in the water," she said.

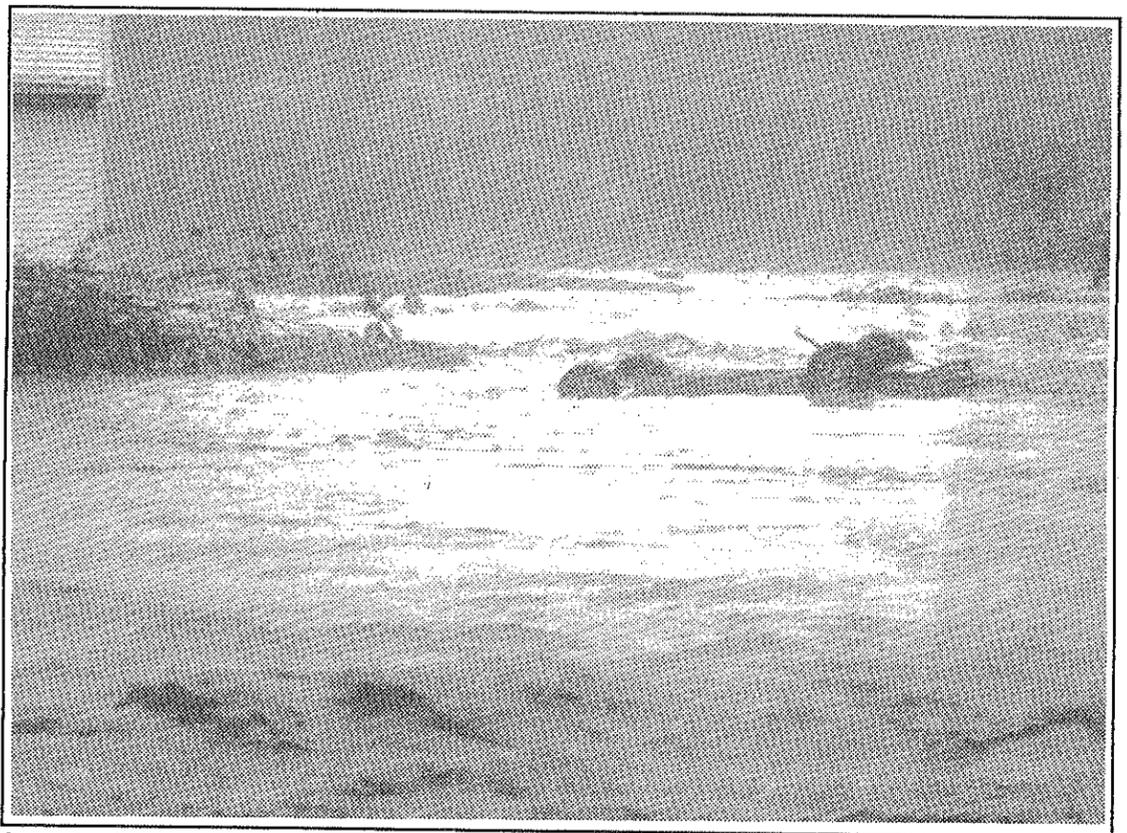
"I'm amazed at how murky the river still is," she added.

The Friends of the Mad River canceled a weekly watch testing for the River Watch program which monitors E. coli levels, temperature and pH values, all common indicators of pollution. Because of the flooding E. coli and pH levels are assumed to be so high that it could be hazardous to people taking samples let alone swimming in the water. Connell said the Friends of the Mad River will try to test the water during the weekend of July 4.

Until the water is confirmed safe, she said, people are advised to stay out of the flooded rivers and make sure the above precautions are followed before using drinking water from private wells.



Propane tanks and other debris were deposited on the road in Warren.



A capsized truck by Jeff Allen's home in Warren.

AMERICAN FLATBREAD

AFTER THE FLOOD

THANKS TO AN OUTPOURING OF
HELP AND SUPPORT
BY FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS AND STRANGERS
WE WILL BE BAKING

FRI. JULY 3RD

AT LAREAU FARM 5:30-9:30

AND

SAT. JULY 4TH

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PARADE
IN WARREN VILLAGE. WE WILL BE
CLOSED SAT. EVENING.

MUSIC BY FULL MOON HEART
FRI. EVENING. THANK YOU