

Do You Need a Tetanus Shot?

Information for People Cleaning Up After a Flood

- Tetanus is a disease that causes painful tightening of the muscles all over the body.
- Adults should receive a tetanus shot every 10 years.
- Because of debris and the possibility for cuts and wounds, all cleanup workers and volunteers who are not up-to-date on their vaccinations should contact their doctor or local public health unit before arriving in the flooded area.
- Tetanus bacteria enter the body through cuts or wounds.
- Tetanus is sometimes called lockjaw because infected people cannot open their mouths or swallow.
- Tetanus is a serious illness and often results in death.

**For more information, contact
the Metro Public Health Department at 615-340-7775.**