## To learn more about the CDC Water and Health Study or to ask questions about your participation:

- Visit the study website at http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/study.html
- E-mail us at healthywater@cdc.gov
- Call us at 1-404-639-1700 (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (EST) Monday-Friday)

The CDC Water and Health Study is a research project that will help us better understand the links between water use and health in communities across the United States. Your water utility has volunteered to work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on this study. Your participation can help us learn how to continue to maintain a safe, healthy water supply.



**Centers for Disease** 

Control and Prevention National Center for Emerging and

Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

Everyone benefits from a safe, clean drinking water supply. Your participation will provide information that helps the United States maintain and continue to improve one of the safest and healthiest drinking water supplies in the world.



# What's the purpose of the CDC Water and Health Study?

U.S. tap water is one of the safest and healthiest drinking water supplies in the world. To keep it as safe and healthy as possible, we want to know how people use their tap water, and how water use affects health. The goal of this study is to understand water use and whether water use habits are linked to common illnesses. Your feedback will be combined with information from customers of other water utilities around the country. This information will be used to help make our water even safer.

## Why do you need me to participate?

We want to understand all the ways people in your community use their water, and everyone's experiences are important to the study. We'll be asking selected water utility customers across the country to participate in this research study over the next 2 years. Each and every household we invite is needed to give us the best understanding of everyone's experiences.

Even if you don't drink your tap water, your participation is still essential.

## What will my family and I have to do?

Participation is easy. Either fill out the paper survey booklet and mail it back to us in the provided postage-paid envelope, or log-on to the secure survey website link listed on your survey packet and fill it out on-line.

Up to 6 household members can take part in this study. If family members under the age of 18 would like to participate, we ask that an adult (someone who is at least 18 years old) fill out the survey on their behalf.

The survey should take less than 15 minutes.

#### Why did you pick my community?

Several utilities from around the country have volunteered to work with the CDC on the Water and Health Study. By agreeing to be part of this study, your utility and its customers (like you) are providing an important contribution to public health.

We are selecting water systems that are typical of those found across the country. Being selected for the study does not mean that there is anything unusual about the water service in your community, and we will not be changing your water in any way as a part of this study.

## How will the CDC Water and Health Study benefit my family and other water utility customers?

Everyone benefits from a clean, safe, and healthy drinking water supply. Your participation will provide information to help the United States continue to maintain and keep improving one of the safest and healthiest drinking water supplies in the world.

#### Are there drawbacks to my participation?

There are no known health risks associated with study participation.

## Will you keep my information private?

Yes. When the study is complete, your contact information will be removed from our files. No personal information about you will appear on any report. Survey responses will be treated in a secure manner and will not be disclosed, unless otherwise compelled by law.

### What if I choose not to participate?

There is no penalty if you decide not to participate. However, we hope that you will choose to participate in this important study.