



## MANDATORY BOIL WATER NOTICE

If you have potable water in your home, you are under a MANDATORY boil water notice. All water used for drinking, cooking, making ice, washing dishes, or brushing teeth must be brought to a rolling boil for at least one minute. Bottled water may be used as an alternative.

The mandatory boil water notice will remain in effect until water samples show that the water has returned to safe drinking levels. Please see the final page of this update for additional information on boil water safety.

Under a boil water notice, water used for consumption can be disinfected by any one of the following methods:

- Bringing the water to a rolling boil and holding it there for one (1) minute, OR
- Using a disinfecting chemical. If you cannot boil water, you should put eight (8) drops of common household bleach (unscented), which is about 1/8th teaspoon, into one (1) gallon of tap water, then shake it, and allow it to stand for 30 minutes before drinking. If the water is cloudy, use sixteen (16) drops, about 1/4 teaspoon of bleach instead of 8, shake it, and let it stand for 30 minutes. There should be a slight chlorine odor. Use common household bleach that has 5% to 8% active ingredients. Use food-grade containers. OR
- Using water purification tablets or iodine that many sports and camping stores sell and follow their directions. You can also buy commercially bottled water for consumption and food preparation as an alternative. Consumption includes brushing teeth, washing fruits and vegetables, and homemade ice.

Tap water may be used for showering, baths, shaving, and washing, so long as care is taken not to swallow or allow water in the eyes or nose, or mouth. Children and disabled individuals should have their baths supervised to ensure water is not ingested. The time spent bathing should be minimized. Though the risk of illness is minimal, individuals who have recent surgical wounds, are immunosuppressed, or have a chronic illness may want to consider using bottled or boiled water (that has cooled) for cleansing until the notice is lifted.

Businesses and non-residential sites should take steps such as posting notices or disabling water fountains and ice machines. If you provide water to visitors or employees, use commercially produced bottled water for drinking or beverage preparation (coffee). Food service operations have additional requirements from their regulatory agency. After the water system is repaired, and the pressure is restored in the pipes to your home or business, the mandatory boil water notice will remain in effect for one to several days while bacteria tests are conducted to assure the safety of the water.