

## Boil Water Notices

A boil-water notice or boil-water advisory is a public health advisory given by the City or Health Department to our customers when the drinking water could be contaminated.

When under a boil-water notice, the water should be brought to a rolling boil for one minute in order to kill protozoa, bacteria and any viruses. Allow the water to cool off before consumption.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Related Questions

## Why are Precautionary Boil Water Notices issued?

Precautionary Boil Water Notices may be issued because of water system loss of power, loss of water pressure, a water main (pipe) break or other unforeseen emergency. Water pressure keeps pollutants from entering the underground pipes that bring drinking water to your house or business. When the pressure is lost, it is possible that contaminants could seep into the pipes.

The notice does not mean that the water is contaminated — it means it is possible for contaminants to enter the pipes and affect drinking water. Until required bacteriological testing is completed, we recommend — as a precaution — boiling tap water before consuming it to kill any potential contaminants, or using bottled water.

## How long should water be boiled?

Vigorous boiling for at least one full minute is the safest and most effective method of disinfection. Fill a pot with cold water and start timing when steady streams of bubbles pop from the bottom of the pot. Water must be adequately cooled before it can be used for washing or brushing teeth. Store the boiled water in clean, covered containers. Using bottled water is also an option.

## **How does boiling water make it safe to drink?**

Boiling water purifies it because disease-causing bacteria, viruses or parasites will be destroyed by the heat.

## **When will the Precautionary Boil Water Notice be lifted?**

.After the water system is repaired, and the pressure is restored in the pipes to your home or business, the Precautionary Boil Water Notice will remain in effect while bacteriological tests are conducted to assure the safety of the water. The notice will be lifted (rescinded) only after the required testing proves the water is safe to drink.

[View All FAQ's](#)