

**How long will I need to boil my water?**

The typical period of time is 48 hours from the time of the service interruption, but each notice will come with a projected time frame.

**How do I boil my water so that it is safe to drink?**

Bring water to a FULL ROLLING BOIL for 1 MINUTE, then allow the water to COOL BEFORE USE. Because water may take 30 minutes to cool, plan ahead. Make up a batch of boiled water in advance so you will not be tempted to use it hot and risk scalds or burns. Boiled water may be used for drinking, cooking, and washing. The flat taste of boiled water can be improved by aeration: pouring it back and forth from one container to another. In lieu of boiling, you may purchase bottled water or get water from another suitable source. Here's an easy way to remember...ROLL for ONE then COOL.

**I don't have power. Is boiling water the only way to make it safe?**

If you don't have access to electric or gas (you can boil water in an all metal pot on the grill, using caution when removing the pot) and don't have an ample supply of bottled water, there are alternate methods of disinfecting the water. Caution must be taken to avoid overdosing, please follow all manufacturer instructions. They are:

- Use water purifying tablets (generally available from the local pharmacy or camping supply store), according to package directions.
- Use unscented household bleach. Add 8 drops (1/8 teaspoon) household bleach per gallon of water. Mix thoroughly. Let stand for 30 minutes. If water is cloudy, repeat the dosage and let stand 30 minutes. The water will not be toxic, although it will have a chlorine odor and taste.

**What about ice cubes or home prepared foods that may contain water that should have been boiled?**

Discard the ice cubes. If prepared food is not reheated, be on the safe side and don't eat it.

**Does using a coffee maker make it unnecessary to boil the water I use to make coffee?**

No, you should still use boiled water or bottled water to brew your coffee.

**Can I make formula?**

No, you should still use boiled water or bottled water to make formula or other drinks from concentrate.

**Can I use the water to rinse vegetables or fruits?**

No, use boiled or bottled water to rinse fruits and vegetables.

**Can I hand-wash dishes with water that hasn't been boiled?**

Yes, use hot, soapy water and add one tablespoon of bleach per gallon as a precaution and rinse dishes in cooled water that was boiled first.

**What if I use a dishwasher?**

Only if your model has a sanitizing cycle. That will bring the temperature high enough to destroy any bacteria that may be present.

**Can I take a shower?**

Yes. Just be careful not to drink the water while you shower or bathe.

**Can I brush my teeth?**

No, use boiled or bottled water to brush your teeth.

**If I have breaks in my skin, is it still OK to shower or bathe in water that hasn't been boiled?**

It is recommended that if it is a large open wound or if you are immuno-compromised, apply a waterproof bandage to the wound or take a sponge bath.

**Do I have to boil the water for my pets?**

To be on the safe side, yes.

**Can I do laundry?**

Yes, it is okay to do laundry.

**What if I have a filter system on my faucet or refrigerator?**

Most point of use filters are designed to improve the taste and odor of water and not remove harmful bacteria. Check the manual or contact the manufacturer for more information. If in doubt, you should boil your water or use bottled water.

**What if I think I ingested some water that should have been boiled but wasn't?**

For a Precautionary Boil Water Notice, it is highly unlikely that anything actually entered the water system. If it did it would most likely be a type of bacteria that could cause digestive irregularities. If severe diarrhea or cramping occurs or if diarrhea or cramping occurs and lasts more than 3 to 4 days, contact your doctor.