

Boil Water Notice – Child Care

Special Precautions That Need To Be Taken in Child Care Facilities During a Boil Water Advisory

What Is The Reason For This Notice?

The boil water advisory is a precautionary advisory resulting from *E.coli* detected in water sample(s) collected from the drinking water system supplying your facility. Immediately secure and use a potable supply of drinking water. A potable supply includes using bottled water and/or boiling the water.

Boiling Information:

Bring water to a rolling boil for at least 1 minute. Cool and store the water in food grade containers. If you are using an electric kettle consider choosing a kettle with an automatic shut-off feature. If children are in care place the pot on the back burner to avoid scalds. Boil as much water in a pot as you can comfortably lift without spilling. Caution should always be exercised when handling boiling water to minimize the risk of burns.

Additional Information:

- Boil all water used for: drinking, making juice, infant formula, making ice, washing ready to eat fruits, vegetables or other food items.
- Discard ready to eat food that was prepared with water that was not boiled and/or not from a bottled water source.
- Use bottled, boiled, or another approved potable water source.
- Only use potable water for brushing teeth.
- Post signs at the entrance of the facility and at faucets as a useful reminder for staff and visitors.
- Household dishwashers are generally safe to use so long as the dishwasher reaches a final rinse temperature of 45 degrees Celsius, 150 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Water can be utilized for sanitation purposes such as hand washing and toilet flushing.
- Use hand sanitizer after washing your hands.

Can children be washed with untreated water?

Younger children should be sponge-bathed instead of bathing in a tub because they are likely to swallow tub water. Avoid spraying water near a child's face.

I Have A Dishwasher. Is It Safe To Use?

Yes, you can continue to use it. If your dishwasher has a hot setting. (65 degrees Celsius or higher) this will safely disinfect dishes. If your dishwasher does not have a hot water setting, after finishing the cycle, soak dishes for 1 minute in a solution of 1oz (30 ml) of bleach mixed with 3 gallons of lukewarm water (13.5 litres). Let dishes air dry.

I Wash Dishes By Hand. How Do I Disinfect Them?

You can use boiled water for washing dishes. Dishes washed in soap and hot water can also be rinsed in boiled water or disinfected with the following bleach solution. Mix 1 ounce (about 30 ml) bleach into three gallons (13.5 litres) of water at room temperature for at least one minute. Let dishes air dry.

Should I Change The Way I Am Doing Laundry?

No. Continue doing laundry the way you normally do. If you have to launder any sheets that are heavily soiled with feces, carefully remove any soil before you place the sheets into the washer, without much agitation of the cloth. Use rubber gloves when handling heavily soiled sheets.

What To Do After The Boil Water Notice is Lifted.

A public announcement will be made when the boil water notice has been lifted. As equipment connected to water lines may have been contaminated you must take certain actions this includes:

- Run cold water faucets and drinking water fountains for 1 minute.
- Flush all pieces of equipment, or fixtures, connected to the water lines for 1 minute.
- Drain and refill hot water heaters.
- Drain and flush pressure tanks (if applicable).
- Run water softeners through a regeneration cycle (if applicable).
- Flush ice machines. Disconnect the water line from the ice machine and flush the line for 1 minute. Replace any in-line filters then reconnect the machine to the water line; make ice for 1 hour and dispose of the ice. Clean and sanitize surfaces that come into contact with water and ice.

For more information please call the

Drinking Water Line:

604-870-7906