



SAFE WATER DRINKING



Boil Water Advisory

Precautionary Measures for Residential Settings

What do you do during a Boil Water Advisory?

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit advises that all water used for consumption be:

- Heated to a hard boil for at least 1 minute prior to use (store in a clean, covered container).
- or
- Commercially bottled water.

Home filtration devices (filters) DO NOT kill bacteria. In your home, these devices could be portable, plumbed-in or faucet mounted.

You can continue to use your tap water for...

Handwashing

Handwashing can be done with tap water.

Laundry

Laundering is considered safe.

Showering/Bathing

Adults may continue to use the supply, as long as the water is Not Swallowed.

Young children, immunocompromised, as well as individuals with skin lesions or open wounds should take sponge baths with boiled water.

Why has this Boil Water Advisory been issued?

A Boil Water Advisory has been issued because recent conditions or concerns may have adversely affected the quality or safety of your potable water supply.

JUST THE FACTS



Besides drinking, boiled water should be used for...



Food Preparation

This includes but is not limited to ready to eat foods such as fruits and vegetables, concentrated fruit drinks and infant formula. However, when preparing food, which requires boiling, you may do so as long as water is brought to a hard boil for at least 1 minute. Discard all food and beverages previously made with water, such as ice cubes, baby formula and juices. Disinfect all containers with a household bleach solution described below and remake with boiled water.



Dishwashing

Hand dishwashing can be done in the usual manner, however final rinse must be done with boiled/bottled water or disinfected in a bleach solution (1 tsp. (5 mls) bleach to 1 gallon (4.5 litres of lukewarm water).

Mechanical dishwashers may be used as long as a chlorinated detergent is used (please check box label) in the cycle or there is a sanitizing cycle (check owner manual).



Baby Formula

Special care should be taken when preparing baby formula; including mixing cereal and juices, as well as cleaning bottles. A safe alternative to mixing formula with boiled or bottled water would be ready-to-use formulas.



Brushing Teeth

Use boiled or bottled water.



Your Health Is Our Concern.

Continue with these procedures until you have been notified by the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit that the boil water advisory has been lifted.

For more information on
safe water or water advisories.

Windsor-Essex County Health Unit
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519-258-2146
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