

## **Boil Water Notice FAQs**

### **Can I drink the water when a Precautionary Boil Water Notice is issued?**

It is not advised to drink the water. The advisory is typically issued following a line break when contamination could have entered the water supply. All water used for drinking, cooking, making ice, brushing teeth or washing dishes should be boiled 1<sup>st</sup> or as an alternative, bottle water can be used.

### **How long should I boil water?**

A rolling boil of 1 minute is sufficient and allow the water to cool before using obviously.

### **Can I brush my teeth with tap water when a Precautionary Boil Water Notice is issued?**

It is not advised to brush your teeth. You should not ingest any water while the advisory is in place. Bottled water is a great alternative for this.

### **Can I bathe or shower during a Precautionary Boil Water Notice?**

Typically you can as long as you don't ingest the water. If you have open wounds, cuts, blisters or have a compromised immune system it would be advised to boil the water and allow it to cool.

### **Can I use filtered water (fridge, pitcher, etc.)?**

It is not advised to use filtered water as filters do not typically remove microbes.

### **Will my dishwasher get hot enough to kill bacteria during a Precautionary Boil Water Notice?**

Unknown but typically dishwashers don't reach high enough temperatures to kill microbes. Safer to err on the side of caution and wait until the advisory is lifted to run the dishwasher.

### **How long do Boil Water Notices Typically Last?**

Precautionary Boil Water Notices will remain in effect until lab tests show that the water is safe to drink and a retraction notice is posted, which is typically a minimum of two days.