# What To Do Under A Boil Water Notice

# If the RWA issues a boil water notice, here's what you need to know.















# **BOIL YOUR WATER!**

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. Here's an easy way to remember... **ROLL for ONE** then **COOL**.

#### Washing Dishes

If handwashing dishes, use boiled (then cooled) water, water from an alternate source, or after washing with dish detergent rinse for a minute in a dilute bleach (1 tablespoon of unscented bleach per gallon of water). Allow dishes, cutlery, cups, etc. to completely air dry before use.

You can use a dishwasher if the hot wash is at least 170°F and includes a full dry cycle. However, most home dishwashers do not reach this temperature. If you are uncertain of the temperature of your dishwasher, rinse the dishes in dilute bleach and completely air dry as described for hand washed dishes.

#### **Brushing Your Teeth**

Only disinfected or boiled water should be used for brushing your teeth.

#### **Bathing**

Young children should be given sponge baths rather than put in a bathtub where they might ingest tap water. Adults or children should take care not to swallow water when showering.

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Ice cubes are not safe unless made with disinfected or boiled water. The freezing process does not kill bacteria and other microorganisms.

## Washing Fruits & Vegetables

Use disinfected or boiled water to wash fruits and vegetables that are eaten raw.

## **Hand Washing**

Only bottled or disinfected water should be used for hand washing.

#### Cooking

Bring water to a rolling boil for one minute before adding food.

## **Infants**

For infants, use only prepared canned baby formula that is not condensed and does not require added water. Do not use powdered formulas prepared with contaminated water.

## House Pets

The same precautions taken to protect humans should be used for pets.

## Houseplants & Garden

Water can be used without treatment for watering household plants and garden plants. The exception would be things like strawberries or tomatoes where the water would contact the edible fruit.

Regional Water Authority

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