

What to Do After a Boil Advisory

February 2021

What to do after a Boil Advisory has been lifted or water service has been restored

Residents are advised to **flush** their water following the lifting of a boil advisory or after water service has been restored to clear plumbing of potentially contaminated water.

Recommendations for Flushing:

- **Clean Aerators:** remove all aerators from faucets and soak in bleach.
- **Faucets:** Flush for five minutes with cold water. For a residence with multiple levels, start at the top of the house.
- **Showers:** Flush for five minutes with a mix of hot and cold water.
- **Toilets:** Flush and clean each toilet.
- **Dish Washers:** If your machine has a sanitize cycle, run one cycle.
- **Outdoor Spigots:** Flush for five minutes but disconnect the hose first.
- **Refrigerator Water Dispenser:** Flush for five minutes or at least one quart of water.
- **Faucet/Fridge Water Filters:** Consider replacing filter per manufacturer recommendation.
- **In-Line Water Filter:** Consider replacing filter per manufacturer recommendation.
- **Ice Makers:** Dump all existing ice and discard new ice made over an additional 24-hour period to assure complete purging of the water supply line. Wash and sanitize ice bin.
- **Food and Baby Formula:** Be sure you have discarded any baby formula or other foods prepared with water on the days of the boil order. (If unsure of the dates contact your water department.)
- **Water Heaters:** Run hot water from all faucets until water runs cold. The second option is to drain the water heater using spigot/release on the bottom of heater.
- **Water Softeners:** Cycle water softener per manufacturer recommendation.
- **Soft Drink Dispensers:** Disconnect flavoring and cycle water through until replaced with fresh water then reconnect flavoring.
- **Washing Machines:** No action required.

Due to the flushing of the water lines by residents and the flushing of the hydrants, some customers may experience discolored water. However, this is an expected result and does not pose a health risk.

Contact your local Water Department if you have any questions.

