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## Frequently Asked Questions about Boil Orders

### Why must we boil the water?

- Water from a municipal source is generally very safe. Occasionally however circumstances require us to take extra precautions.
- When a boil water advisory is issued this means there may be an issue with water quality and we need to take steps to protect ourselves.

### How can I make my water safe to use?

- Boiling water for five (5) minutes is the best way to ensure safety.
- Once it has cooled, pouring the boiled water between two clean containers will aerate the water and improve the taste.
- Refrigerate boiled water in clean containers.

### For which activities should use I boiled water?

- Any activities that cause you to ingest, or swallow, water such as:
  - Drinking
  - Brushing teeth
  - Baby formula
  - Cleaning fruits and vegetables
  - Preparing food
  - Washing dishes
  - Water for pets

### What about showers, baths?

- Adults can continue to shower as long as no water is swallowed.
- Children or infants should have sponge baths with water that has been boiled.
- Those with suppressed immune systems or open wounds should use only boiled water.
- Hand sanitizer can be used to clean hands but wash them with soap and boiled water after every tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) application.

### Is bottled water or packaged ice safe?

- Bottled water and packaged ice are safe to use.

### What other action should I take?

- Be sure your relatives and neighbors, particularly the elderly, are using precautions.
- Listen to local media outlets for more information and to learn when the order is lifted.
- Contact the Health Department if you have questions or concerns at 812-435-5695.

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