

FAQ - Boil Water Alert



How do I boil the water to make it safe to drink?

Bring water to a full rolling boil until a continuous and rapid stream of air-bubbles is produced in your pan or kettle. After boiling, allow the water to cool.

Water should be boiled even if you have a home filter or fridge or jug with a filter.



Can I boil water and set it aside for later?

Yes, boiled water can be stored in a clean, closed container. If the water is to be kept for a few days or more store it in the fridge.

Pouring the stored water back and forth between one clean container and another a few times should help to improve the 'flat' flavour of the water.



Can I still bath, shower or wash my face in the water from my tap?

Yes, it's still safe to bath, shower or wash your face with tap water, while a Boil Water Alert is in place.

Remember to keep an eye on small children or people with a disability to make sure they don't accidentally swallow water while bathing.



Can I brush my teeth with tap water?

No.

We recommend you use boiled or bottled water when brushing your teeth.



Can I use tap water for cooking?

You should use boiled water for any food preparation or cooking where added water is not brought to a rolling boil as part of the cooking process (for example, adding extra water to a sauce or stew at the end of the cooking process).

If in doubt, just use boiled water.



How should I wash fruit and vegetables?

Fruits and vegetables that will not be cooked before eating should be washed with cooled, boiled water.



Can I make ice with tap water?

No, you should use cooled, boiled water to make ice when a Boil Water Alert is in place.



Is it safe to wash my dishes with tap water?

It is safe to wash your dishes with tap water, however, you should make sure they are properly dried before use.



What happens if I accidentally drink the tap water?

Don't panic! The chance of you becoming ill is low.

If you experience diarrhea, nausea, vomiting or abdominal cramps visit the Health Centre or your doctor.



When will a Boil Water Alert be lifted?

We will advise you when a Boil Water Alert has been cancelled after water quality testing confirms the safety of the drinking water.