

# 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.