



December 19, 2016

BOIL WATER ADVISORY VILLAGE OF GREENWOOD:

Due to water main repairs and the possibility of unsafe water, consumers in the Village of Greenwood are advised to boil all water for at least 1 minute before drinking, making ice cubes, washing foods, brushing teeth or any other activity requiring human consumption until further notice.

We are required to have 2 samples taken 24 hours apart clear before the boil advisory can be removed so please ensure you continue to boil your water until we advise otherwise.

The Greenwood Water Utility is attempting to correct the problem as quickly as possible. The Utility, Nova Scotia Environment and Labour and the Medical Officer of Health are continuing to monitor the water quality closely. For further information regarding this notice contact The Municipality of the County of Kings at 902-678-6141; Nova Scotia Environment and Labour at 902-679-6086 or the Medical Officer of Health at 902-542-6310.

Fact Sheet on Domestic Water Usage When a Boil Advisory is in Effect:

Only boiled water should be used for:

- drinking
- use in infant formulas or mixing juice or other drinks
- making ice cubes

Only disinfected water (boiled or bleached) should be used for:

- washing and bathing
- washing dishes
- humidifiers
- washing food that will be consumed uncooked, such as fruit or vegetables

It is not necessary to use disinfected water for:

- laundry
- washing floors and other household cleaning

Disinfecting Water

Water can be disinfected in a number of ways including boiling or adding household bleach, which contains chlorine. Please see the table below for the details on disinfecting water.

	Method	Amount	Time
Boiling	Bring water to a rolling boil and continue to boil for at least 1 minute.	N/A	Boil for at least 1 minute.
Adding Bleach	Use household bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite)		
	a) for washing dishes in the sink	A capful (10ml) of bleach per sink of water	Mix and let sit for 1 minute before use
	b) for bathing in the bathtub	3 ounces (85 ml) of bleach per standard tub	Mix and let site for 10 minutes
	c) for whirlpool tubs	Follow manufacturer's instructions	

Holding water at a rolling boil for at least 1 minute will inactivate all waterborne pathogenic micro-organisms. Water can be boiled either in a pot or kettle on a stove, an electric kettle without an automatic shut-off or in a microwave oven. If water is boiled in a microwave, it is advisable to include a glass rod or wooden or plastic stir stick in the container to provide nucleation sites for bubble formation and energy diffusion. This will prevent the formation of superheated water.

Under most circumstances it is not necessary to boil water used for other household purposes. Adults, adolescents and older children may shower, bathe or wash using tap water but should avoid swallowing the water. Toddlers and infants should be sponge bathed. In non-outbreak situations, dishes and laundry may be washed in tap water, either by hand or by machine.

Users That Must Take Particular Precautions During a Boil Advisory

Commercial Establishments (Restaurants, Hotels, Convenience Stores, etc.)

All water that is to be provided directly to customers for drinking purposes must be treated by boiling the tap water for at least 1 minute and then storing the water in clean, covered containers until used for serving. An alternative to this would be using commercially available “bottled water” from a supplier who is a member of the Canadian Bottled Water Association (CBWA) or the International Bottled Water Association (IBWA). Commercial coffee machines that achieve boiling temperatures as part of their design are exempt (see notes).

All foods (e.g. fruits and vegetables) that need washing are to be rinsed or soaked in tap water that has been boiled for at least 1 minute. An alternative to this would be using commercially available “bottled water” from a supplier who is a member of the Canadian Bottled Water Association (CBWA) or the International Bottled Water Association (IBWA).

Ensure that food handlers wash and rinse hands in water that has been treated with chlorine bleach.

It is not necessary for bakeries to boil water that is part of a recipe or ingredient in a product that is to be baked. Water for other uses must be boiled.

Disconnect ice machines and discard any ice and crushed ice products that has been made from this ice. All ice used during the boil water advisory must originate from tap water that has been boiled for at least 1 minute or from a commercial ice supply distributor. Ice machines at the establishment must be emptied and not used for the duration of the Boil Water Advisory. Lines to ice machines must be disinfected prior to reuse.