

Boil Order Guidelines for Food Service and Health Care Facilities

To continue operating under a boil order or interrupted water service from municipal water supplies, all food service and health care facilities are required to secure and use potable water from an approved source for the following uses:

- Water for food preparation
- Tea and other beverages made in the facility
- Washing produce or thawing frozen foods
- Employee handwashing, followed by a hand sanitizer approved for use in a food service facility

Approved sources may include commercially prepared bottled water, on-premises tank trucks, or a connection by a licensed plumber to an adjacent approved source.

Any fixture within the facility such as soda machines, soda dispensing guns and ice makers which are connected to the affected water **must not be used**.

- **The affected water can be used only for employee handwashing after using the restroom by using soap and warm water, followed by a hand sanitizer approved for use in a food service facility.**
- **The affected water may be boiled for THREE MINUTES and then used.**

Food service facilities and health care institutions may consider the following alternative procedures to minimize water usage:

- Commercially-packaged ice and bottled water
- Single-service items and disposable utensils
- Prepared foods from an approved source
- Restrict menu choices or hours of operation

After the boil order is lifted or water service resumes, follow these precautionary measures:

- Flush the building water lines until there is a noticeable temperature change.
- Clean faucet screens, water line strainers on mechanical dishwashing machines and similar equipment.
- Purge all water-using fixtures and appliances of standing water (and ice) such as ice machines, beverage makers, hot water heaters, etc.
- Clean and sanitize all fixtures, sinks and equipment connected to water lines.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call (847) 377-8020.

Source: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency