

WATER SYSTEM ADVISORY

A boil-water advisory is a public health announcement that the public should boil tap water before drinking it. When issued, the public should assume there is a risk of water being unsafe to drink. Advisories can be issued after: failure of or substantial interruption in water treatment processes that result in increased turbidity levels or particle counts and mechanical or equipment failure; violations of the total coliform rule or the turbidity standard of the surface water treatment rule; circumstances that compromise the distribution system (e.g., water main break); or, a natural disaster (e.g., flood, hurricane, or earthquake). <http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/>

OPTIONS FOR FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS & BARS

OPTION #1 --- close operation until service provider reports that water is potable or safe to use; provider will convey this information via local media & websites

OPTION #2 --- operate under the following constraints:

Consumption of Water

- use water (from the water system) for drinking only after it has been boiled
- turn off ice makers, soda fountains, drinking fountains, and any other water-using equipment (coffee, ice & soda machines, produce spray units, water fountains, etc.: turn off all equipment directly connected to the water system; clean and sanitize each unit including any filtering device plus replace any cartridges with new filtering cartridges; leave equipment in an off mode status until it is reported safe to resume use of the water system)
- label all remaining water sources "Do Not Drink"
- provide bottled water or drinks
- use only bagged ice made from an approved water source

Hand Washing: follow normal or routine hand washing procedures, using warm water and soap (soaps with bactericidal properties); use hand sanitizers after washing hands and food grade disposable gloves

Food Preparation

- only serve food that has been heated to at least 165° F as part of the cooking process &/or packaged foods obtained from approved commercial sources
- all food service staff must use hand sanitizers after washing their hands and food grade disposable gloves; allow no bare hand contact with food, beverages, dishware, flatware &/or other utensils

Dishwashing

- use commercial dishwashers equipped with hot water (180° F) sanitizing cycles or dishwashers operated with a chemical sanitizing agent OR SINGLE-SERVICE EATING AND DRINKING UTENSILS
- three (3)-compartment sink: normal washing/rinsing/sanitizing procedures may be performed in a three (3)-compartment sink; either hot water at the minimum level shall be maintained or concentration of the chemical sanitizing agent (chlorine, iodine, quaternary ammonia) shall be maintained

WATER SYSTEM NOTICE

A boil-water notice is a public health announcement that the public should boil tap water before drinking it. When issued, the public should assume the water is unsafe to drink. Advisories can be issued after 1) failure of or substantial interruption in water treatment processes that result in increased turbidity levels or particle counts and mechanical or equipment failure; 2) positive test results for pathogens (e.g., *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia*, *Shigella*, or *E. coli*) in water; 3) violations of the total coliform rule or the turbidity standard of the surface water treatment rule; 4) circumstances that compromise the distribution system (e.g., water main break) coupled with an indication of a health hazard; or 5) a natural disaster (e.g., flood, hurricane, or earthquake). <http://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/factsheets/boilwater.htm#1>

FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS, BARS & OTHER FACILITIES OPERATING UNDER PERMIT & INSPECTION BY THE NEW HANOVER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Management shall immediately close operation until service provider reports that water is potable or safe to use; provider will convey this information via local media & websites

FACILITIES OPERATING UNDER INSPECTION BY THE NEW HANOVER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT & LICENSED TO OPERATE BY ANOTHER AGENCY

Management shall immediately notify their licensing agency & the New Hanover County Health Department