



Platte County Health Department

NOTICE: Boil Water Order or Advisory

Boil Water Orders or Advisories may be issued by the Missouri Department of Health or Missouri Department of Natural Resources for:

1. Microbiological Contamination – the imminent threat of or the presence of fecal coliform in a water supply as indicated by unsatisfactory bacteriological analyses and/or epidemiologic association of the water with human illness.
2. Low Water Pressure – pressure below 20 psi in any part of the system signals the existence of conditions that could allow contamination of the water supply through backflow.
3. Turbidity – excessive turbidity interferes with the disinfection process.
4. Other Physical Findings – which indicates imminent potential for bacteriological contamination of the water system.

What is an approved alternate supply of public water?

- Individual containers of commercially bottled water.
- Connection of plumbing to an adjacent source of water acceptable to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and/or Health Department, which is protected from contamination and capable of supplying a sufficient quantity of water.
- Using bulk water containers acceptable to the Health Department and which are filled from a source acceptable to DNR or the Health Department. Such water shall be treated with an appropriate concentration of residual disinfectant to effectively counteract potential contamination that may be introduced between the filling of the container(s) and the dispensing of the water. Note: Ice that may have been made from or exposed to contaminated water shall be discarded. Ice shall be either from a commercial source or made with water from an acceptable source. Ice shall be stored in a clean and sanitary container.

Instructions for Food Establishments, Lodging Establishments, and Child Care Centers

1. Voluntary ceasing of operations until the water has been declared acceptable by DNR or the Health Department.
2. Obtaining an alternate supply of potable water and/or ice (as described above), plus satisfactory methods for handwashing, food preparation, equipment cleaning, and sanitation. a) Handwashing (Food handlers and/or public)
 - A germicidal soap or hand cleanser shall be used. Hands shall be dried with paper toweling or approved air drying devices.
 - Use potable water from an alternate approved source for Food Preparation
 - Use prewashed packaged produce or use produce washed prior to the boil order or use frozen or commercially canned produce.
 - Wash fresh produce with potable water from an alternate approved source
 - Use only food that was prepared prior to the boil order
 - Discontinue sale of prepared foods requiring water.
 - Obtain prepared foods from alternate sources.
 - Discontinue Carbonated and other beverages, substitute with bottled water or canned beverages and turn off water lines to beverage dispensers. Such dispensers shall be completely flushed and sanitized before being returned to service after the boil order has been lifted.
 - Use potable water from an alternate approved source.
 - A properly operated manual dishwashing arrangement or properly operated and maintained mechanical, high temperature or chemical dishwashing machine should be satisfactory for sanitizing utensils.
 - Use only single-service tableware and kitchenware.



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- Store food dispensing utensils in the food products rather than in dipper wells.
- Toilets – no change, if water pressure is available. If no water pressure is available, use adjacent facilities if possible or provide chemical toilets (e.g. port-a-johns).

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHILD CARE FACILITIES

- Diaper Changing Adequate handwashing facilities shall be provided in the immediate vicinity. Hands shall be washed immediately after each diaper change.
- Discontinue Bathing and Washing of Children Because of the high probability of splashing, especially with younger children, and the attendant likelihood of water entering the mouth or eyes, either disposable baby wipes or potable water shall be used when bathing infants or using washcloths on children.
- Discontinue toothbrushing only potable water shall be used.
- Laundering facilities may be used, if followed with mechanical drying. If no water pressure is available, clothes shall be taken to another facility for laundering.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LODGING ESTABLISHMENTS

- Individual containers of commercially bottled water shall be placed in each rented guest room and additional bottled water shall be available upon request by guests. Guests are to be notified verbally and again, by written notice prominently placed in each rented guest room, that the plumbed water is not potable and only bottled water should be used for drinking or brushing of teeth.
- Laundering facilities may be used, if followed with mechanical drying. If no water pressure is available, clothes shall be taken to another facility for laundering.

PROCEDURES FOR TREATING WATER DURING A BOIL ORDER

When a boil order is issued, water may be used for potable uses after treatment by boiling or disinfection.

1. Boil water vigorously for three (3) minutes prior to use for cooking and drinking.
2. Disinfect water intended for drinking or cooking purposes by mixing one (1) teaspoon of liquid, unscented chlorine bleach for every five (5) gallons of water. The treated water shall be allowed a minimum 30 minute retention time before the water is used.
3. Water intended for washing food contact surfaces or utensils shall have one (1) teaspoon of liquid, unscented bleach added for each gallon of water. *Note: In-line chlorinators are prohibited from use to address water disinfection.

By adhering to the above stipulations, you can prevent serious illnesses from occurring, as well as protect yourself and your business from potential legal liabilities. Consult with your insurance carrier regarding specific requirements. Remember that this is your responsibility. Health department staff members or our authorized representatives will be conducting checks of establishments to ensure compliance with Food Code and State regulations. Please sign below to acknowledge receipt of this information. Contact our office in Platte City with any questions, the phone number is listed below.

Establishment: _____

Received by: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Printed name: _____ Title: _____

Health Department Representative: _____

Printed name: _____ Title: _____