



WATER QUALITY ADVISORY (WQA)

A WATER QUALITY ADVISORY TELLS YOU THAT:

- ➔ There is some level of risk associated with consuming the drinking water, but a boil water notice is not needed.
- ➔ The risk is elevated for people with weakened immune systems.

WATER QUALITY ADVISORIES MAY BE ISSUED FOR VARIOUS REASONS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- ➔ A potential long-term health risk such as exposure to water contaminants over long periods of time that could result in illness
- ➔ Routine maintenance work on the water supply system
- ➔ Turbidity (the cloudiness of water)

Water quality advisories will include specific directions depending on the type of contamination. Please carefully read and follow these directions to protect yourself. To learn more about how this affects you and how you can protect yourself, visit: <https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthlinkbc-files/preventing-water-borne-infection>



Water Quality
Advisory



Boil Water
Notice



Do Not
Consume



Do Not
Use

Check out the Interior Health water advisory map to search the entire Interior Health region for current drinking water advisories, and to learn more about your water suppliers, the types of advisories, and reasons for these advisories.

drinkingwaterforeveryone.ca





BOIL WATER NOTICE (BWN)

A BOIL WATER NOTICE TELLS YOU THAT:

- ➔ There are organisms in the water that can make you sick.
- ➔ To safely consume (swallow) the water, you must bring it to a rolling boil on a stovetop for at least 60 seconds to kill these harmful organisms, or use an alternate, safe source of water.

ONCE THE WATER IS BOILED FOR AT LEAST 60 SECONDS AND COOLED DOWN AGAIN, YOU CAN USE IT FOR:

- ➔ Drinking
- ➔ Brushing your teeth
- ➔ Washing and preparing food



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DO NOT CONSUME (DNC)

A DO NOT CONSUME NOTICE TELLS YOU THAT:

- ➔ There are harmful chemicals or other bad things in the water that can make you sick.
- ➔ **You cannot make the water safe by boiling it.**
- ➔ The water can make you sick if you consume (swallow) it.

YOU CANNOT USE THE WATER FOR:

- ➔ Drinking
- ➔ Brushing your teeth
- ➔ Washing, preparing, or cooking food
- ➔ Pets' drinking water

YOU CAN USE THE WATER FOR:

- ➔ Bathing or showering (Do not swallow the water.)
- ➔ Household cleaning
- ➔ Flushing toilets
- ➔ Washing your vehicle(s)
- ➔ Watering your plants/garden



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DO NOT USE (DNU)

A DO NOT USE WATER NOTICE MEANS:

- ➔ There are known microbial, chemical, or radiological contaminants in the water and that any contact with the water, with the skin, lungs, or eyes can be dangerous.
- ➔ **Do not turn on your tap for any reason and do not use your water for anything.**
- ➔ You **CANNOT** make the water safe by boiling it.

YOU CANNOT USE THE WATER FOR ANYTHING, INCLUDING:

- ➔ Drinking
- ➔ Brushing your teeth
- ➔ Washing, preparing, or cooking food
- ➔ Bathing (including your pets)
- ➔ Pets' drinking water
- ➔ Household cleaning
- ➔ Washing anything, including vehicle(s)
- ➔ Watering your plants/garden

When there is a do not use advisory, often water supply systems cannot be turned off because they use the same water supply to fight fires.



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