

Operation of Food Premise under Boil Water Notice

Minimum Operating Conditions Required:

- **Beverage service** - no beverage containing untreated tap water shall be served. Only bottled water, or water treated to satisfaction of EHO, may be used for this purpose. Operators must assess the temperature at which their coffee brewing system operates and review their findings with their Environmental Health Officer to determine that the temperature is adequate in lieu of the use of boiled water. Thermometers must be available to continually assess that the temperature requirement is met.
- **Ice** - ice machines must be immediately turned off, and all ice discarded. Only ice from an alternate approved source shall be used during the BWO. The machine must be washed and sanitized prior to putting it back into service.
- **Handwashing** - minimum 30-second vigorous scrub under warm running water. Must then don disposal gloves prior to handling any ready-to-eat food, or during any step where there is no subsequent cooking/kill step.
- **Washing Foods** - all water for this purpose must be first boiled or otherwise chemically treated.
- **Washing/Sanitizing Food Contact surfaces and utensils** - follow existing sanitizer concentration levels for the intended purpose. Water shall be left to sit to achieve adequate contact time where applicable. *Should water quality be very poor (turbid, possible high levels of organisms resistant to chemical disinfection), water must first be boiled, then the appropriate amount of sanitizer added (or bottled water used).*
- **Water as Food Ingredient** - Water must first be boiled before use in food

Policy

Food premises may continue operating during periods of unsatisfactory water quality provided the operator demonstrates the capability of preserving food safety and minimizing the risk to public health.

Background

Food premises must be serviced by an approved water system that provides an adequate supply of hot and cold potable water in accordance to the **Drinking Water Protection Act and Regulation**.