



Handout for Public Facilities Precautions for a Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory (PDWA) or Emergency Boil Water Order (EBWO) at Public Facilities

The following precautionary measures are for public facilities in addition to the measures that are listed in the PDWA/EBWO that was posted in the community. These measures do not apply to all public premises. Those that are not pertinent to the premise's operation may be disregarded.

- Do **NOT** serve water directly from the taps to your clients/customers.
- Water being served must be brought to a rolling boil for at least one minute, cooled and then refrigerated before being used cold.
- Bottled water from an alternate approved source may also be used.
- Coffee makers usually produce water at around 70°C, and are sufficient to inactivate bacteria such as *E. coli*, protozoa such as *Cryptosporidium*, and viruses such as Hepatitis A and Norovirus. However, a sufficient amount of time is needed to ensure that all harmful organisms are destroyed. It is therefore recommended that hot coffee be held for at least 5 minutes before consumption. If you do not know for sure that your coffee maker reaches 70°C it would be best to use boiled or bottled water.

- Proper dish washing methods:
 - Use of a commercial dishwashing machine with a final rinse temperature of 82°C for 10 seconds.
 - A three-compartment sink with a final rinse temperature that exceeds 45°C for 20 minutes or 77°C for 2 minutes.
 - A low temperature dish and glass washing machines requires that you run dishes through the machine twice or pour boiling water over clean dishes or submerging the clean dishes in boiling water.
- Tap water may be used for washing dishes in a dishwasher if there is a sani-cycle that reaches at least 45°C for 20 minutes or 50°C for 5 minutes or 72°C for 1 minute.

- Boiled or bottled water must be used when rinsing fruits and vegetables that will not be cooked.
- Turn the water supply off to any automatic ice making equipment, slush machines, drink dispensers or similar equipment.
- Disconnect drinking water fountains that are connected to the community water supply.
- Post notices in all washrooms advising your clients of the PDWA or EBWO and reminding customers NOT to drink water from the taps.
- In dental offices, provide boiled or bottled water for patients when rinsing mouths. Also ensure that equipment that uses water is provided with a safe supply.

- Actions to be taken when the Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory / Emergency Boil Water Order has been lifted:
 - Water lines within the premise should be completely flushed until the water in the lines is replaced with fresh water.
 - Any equipment that is directly connected to the water lines should be flushed.
 - All in-line water filters should be properly cleaned (according to the manufacturer's directions) or the filter media should be replaced.