
Guidelines for Hospitals and Clinics During a Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory

A hospital or clinic may continue to operate during the Precautionary Drinking Water Advisory if the following conditions are strictly adhered to:

During a drinking water advisory:

- Patients and employees should only consume water that has been disinfected, ice or drinks made with water that has been disinfected, or raw foods rinsed with water that has been disinfected.
- Disinfect water by
 - boiling at a rolling boil for one (1) minute or
 - distilling or
 - filtering through a reverse osmosis filter with an “absolute one micron” filter, that is operated in accordance with the manufacturer’s specifications and has a NSF 58 certification. If UV filters are used, ensure that it is operated in accordance with the manufacturer’s specifications and has a NSF 55 certification.
- Disinfect dishes via dishwashing machines that have a final rinse that exceeds 82°C for 10 seconds, or a sanitizing rinse at an appropriate concentration.
- Use only disinfected water to treat skin wounds.
- Wash hands with soap and water, dry with paper towel, followed by the use of hand sanitizer.
- The hand sanitizer must be provided at all hand wash stations.
- Post notices stating that the water supplied is not potable. These are to be posted in obvious places and at every place at which water can be obtained.
- All employees with diarrheal illness should be regulated by standard rules of exclusion from work.



Population and Public Health

Upon rescinding a drinking water advisory:

- Re-start and flush any water-using fixture or piece of equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. This may vary from fixture to fixture. Consult the manufacturer when re-starting the equipment.
- Managers of large buildings with water-holding reservoirs should consult with their facility engineer and health department about draining the reservoir.
- Run cold water faucets the first time for one (1) minute before using the water.
- Run drinking fountains the first time for one (1) minute before using the water.
- Run water softeners through a regeneration cycle.
- Drain and refill hot water heaters set below 49°C.
- Resume usual bathing practices and care for residents with breaks in their skin.
- Post notices stating that the water supplied is not potable. These are to be posted in obvious places and at every place at which water can be obtained.
- All employees with diarrheal illness should be regulated by standard rules of exclusion from work.

You will be notified by the municipal office when the precautionary drinking water advisory has ended. Municipal officials will be cooperating with Ministry of Environment and Saskatoon Regional Health Authority to resolve water treatment problems.

For more information call Population and Public Health at 655-4605
