

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Boil Water Advisory (BWA) notification issued

Food Facilities **in the affected area** must:

- Immediately close unless they can provide an **approved** alternative source of water i.e. bagged ice, bottled water, “boiled” water (the water must remain at a rolling boil for at least one minute. Large volumes of water should be brought to a rolling boil for at least three to five minutes) licensed potable drinking water tanker truck connected to main water supply.
- **Modify operations as per the [Emergency Guidelines for Food Facilities during a BWA](#)**
- Contact the Office of Public Health for alternative water sources and/or questions for operating during a BWA.

After the boil water advisory is lifted facilities must follow all water department requirements for flushing lines, or as general guidance, run cold water faucets for at least 5 minutes.

If contamination is determined as per the water company’s sampling results, food facilities must do the following **before reopening**:

- Discard existing ice in ice machine, clean and sanitize ice bins.
- Discard any ready-to-eat food prepared with water prior to the advisory.
- Discard any foods exposed to misters after the advisory was issued or any that may have been exposed to contaminated water prior to the advisory.
- Thoroughly clean and sanitize all food contact surfaces, including ice machines.
- Equipment with waterline connections (soda machines, coffee machines, spray misters, ice machines, glass washers, dishwashers) must be flushed, cleaned, and sanitized in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions.
- Remove and replace any water filters.
- Run water softeners through a regeneration cycle.
- Flush drinking fountains for 5 minutes.

Facility may reopen once the Boil Water Advisory has been lifted and all above procedures have been followed.