

How to Use Water Filters During a Boil Water Advisory

Do you use a drinking water filter in your home?

This fact sheet explains how to use drinking water filters during a Boil Water Advisory and actions to take once the Boil Water Advisory is lifted.

Filter your drinking water before boiling it

During a Boil Water Advisory, you should continue to use your drinking water filter to filter your water before you boil it. This is because drinking water filters remove impurities, but typically don't remove bacteria and viruses. You need to boil the water to kill bacteria and viruses.

Boiling water can increase concentrations, or amounts, of certain metals, such as lead. Therefore, it is important to filter before boiling water.



What to do after the Boil Water Advisory is lifted

Filters may have collected bacteria and viruses from water, so once you have learned the Boil Water Advisory is lifted, you should change your water filter cartridges before using it again.

It is important to read the owner's manual for the type of filter you have in your home for instructions on how to change your water filter cartridge. This will ensure you are getting the highest quality of water as possible. Be sure to check your filter certification to make sure you replace the filter cartridge with the correct certification for your needs.

You should also clean the aerator on all of your faucets. Visit the MDHHS ["Clean Your Aerator" fact sheet](#) to learn how to do this.

For More Information on Drinking Water

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
800-648-6942

[Michigan.gov/CareforMiDrinkingWater](https://michigan.gov/CareforMiDrinkingWater)

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

[Michigan.gov/DrinkingWater](https://michigan.gov/DrinkingWater)



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