

City of Hamilton - City Managers Office

## **Medical Officer of Health issues Boil Water Advisory to all users of the Carlisle Municipal Water Supply**

**Hamilton , ON – October 11, 2005 , 5:00 p.m.** – The Medical Officer of Health for the City of Hamilton has issued a boil water advisory (BWA) to all users of the Carlisle Municipal Water Supply. The Boil Water Advisory will stay in effect until further notice. The advisory is a precautionary measure being issued due to the detection of bacteria in the Carlisle Municipal water supply. The Medical Officer of Health strongly urges users of the Carlisle Municipal Water Supply not to use the water supply for drinking and other uses.

### **To make sure your water is safe you are urged to:**

1. Use an alternate supply of water **OR** boil your water at a rolling boil for at least **one-minute** before using it to:

Drink. - Gargle, brush teeth, or rinse your mouth.

Make baby food or formula. - Wash fruits, vegetable and other food.

Wash dishes. - Make meals, ice, juices, coffee, tea, puddings, etc.

2. Bathing and Washing:

Do not swallow any unboiled water used for showers and baths.

Adults, teens and older children (who will follow instructions) can use unboiled water for baths and showers.

Small children can be given sponge-baths instead of tub baths or showers.

Washing hands, flushing toilets and doing laundry is not considered a risk.

3. Follow the instructions below for washing dishes and countertops.

### **If you become sick:**

See your doctor or go to the hospital if you have diarrhea and at least one of the following symptoms; nausea/vomiting, stomach pain/cramps, fever, headache.

See your doctor or go to the hospital if the diarrhea is bloody or lasts more than 48 hours.

The elderly, young, and those with weakened immune systems (caused by AIDS, cancer, or other diseases) who become ill should immediately see their doctor or go to the nearest hospital.

### **Washing Dishes and Countertops During a Boil Water Advisory**

When a **Boil Water Advisory** is in effect, follow these steps to ensure your dishes and countertops are properly cleaned.

#### **Wash dishes by hand:**

1. Use bottled or boiled water for washing and rinsing dishes.

**OR**

2. Wash dishes with soap and hot tap water and then rinse them in a bleach and water solution and let air dry. See below for directions to make the bleach solution.

**Wash dishes in a dishwasher:**

1. Use your dishwasher's "hot" setting with the temperature booster on. It safely cleans dishes.

**OR**

2. For dishwashers without a "hot" setting or booster, after the end of the cycle, rinse them in a bleach and water solution and let air dry. See below for directions to make the solution.

**Washing countertops and cutting/chopping boards:**

Clean with soap and hot water. Rinse/wipe with bleach and water solution and let air dry.

See below for directions to make the solution.

**Bleach and Water Solution**

To make a bleach and water solution strong enough to kill any bacteria on dishes, cutlery and kitchen surfaces:

1. Mix 5 ml (1 teaspoon) of liquid household bleach in 1 litre (4 cups or 1 quart) of tap water.
2. Make it fresh daily.
3. Do not reuse or store this solution.
4. Keep it out of reach of children in a tightly closed container.

For assistance, questions or concerns, please call

Health related questions: 905-546-3937

Water system related questions:

During regular office hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. call 905-546-4426

After hours 905 546-CITY (2489) )

We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for patience and understanding.

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