Boiling water

To boil water
- Fill a pot with water.
- Heat the water until bubbles come from the bottom of the pot to the top.
- Once the water reaches a rolling boil, let it boil for 3 minutes.
- Turn off the heat source and let the water cool.
- Pour the water into a clean container with a cover for storage.

Water filters
Boil tap water even if it is filtered. Most kitchen and other household water filters typically do not remove bacteria or viruses.

Preparing and cooking food
- Wash all fruits and vegetables with boiled water that has cooled or bottled water.
- Bring water to a rolling boil for 3 minutes before adding food to cook.
- Use boiled water when preparing drinks, such as coffee, tea, and lemonade.
- Wash food preparation surfaces with boiled water.

Feeding babies and using formula
- Breastfeeding is best. Continue to breastfeed. If breastfeeding is not an option:
  - Use ready-to-use baby formula, if possible.
  - Prepare powdered or concentrated baby formula with bottled water. Use boiled water if you do not have bottled water.
  - Wash and sterilize bottles and nipples before use.
  - If you cannot sterilize bottles, try to use single-serve, ready-to-feed bottles.

Ice
- Do not use ice from ice trays, ice dispensers, or ice makers.
- Throw out all ice made with tap water.
- Make new ice with boiled or bottled water.

Bathing and showering
Be careful not to swallow any water when bathing or showering.

Use caution when bathing babies and young children. Consider giving them a sponge bath to reduce the chance of them swallowing water.
Fact Sheet About What to Do During a Boil Water Order, continued

Brushing teeth
Brush teeth with boiled or bottled water. Do not use untreated tap water.

Washing dishes
Household dishwashers generally are safe to use if the water reaches a final rinse temperature of at least 150 degrees or if the dishwasher has a sanitizing cycle.

To wash dishes by hand:

- Wash and rinse the dishes as you normally would using hot water.
- In a separate basin, add 1 teaspoon of unscented household liquid bleach for each gallon of warm water.
- Soak the rinsed dishes in the water for at least one minute.
- Let the dishes air dry completely.

Laundry
It is safe to do laundry as usual.

Pets
Pets can get some of the same diseases as people. It is a good idea to give them boiled water that has been cooled.