

Post-Boil Water Order Instructions

For Residential Water Customers

Effective: 4/30/26 4:00pm

Affected Area: All Town of Lake City Water Customers

Contact: Town of Lake City at 970-944-233, townoflakecityco.gov/news-and-notice

The boil water order for your area has been **lifted**. Testing has confirmed that the public water supply meets applicable drinking water standards. You no longer need to boil tap water before drinking, cooking, brushing teeth, making ice, or preparing food. Public health agencies advise customers to follow local instructions during and after drinking water advisories, because recommendations can depend on the cause of the advisory.

Before returning to normal water use, please complete the following steps to clear your home plumbing and appliances.

1. Flush Household Plumbing

1. Remove faucet aerators or screens from indoor faucets.
2. Turn on each **cold water** faucet slowly.
3. Run cold water for at least **3 to 5 minutes**, or until the water runs clear.
4. Start with the faucet on the lowest floor, then continue to upper floors if applicable.
5. Clean and reinstall faucet aerators or screens.

2. Flush Hot Water Lines

1. Run hot water from each faucet until the water becomes cold.
 2. For homes with a tank water heater, flush hot water lines long enough to clear the tank and household plumbing.
 3. As general guidance:
 - Run hot water for at least **15 minutes** for a typical 40-gallon water heater.
 - Run hot water for at least **30 minutes** for an 80-gallon or larger water heater.
 4. Follow the manufacturer's instructions if your water heater requires special handling.
-

3. Refrigerator Water Dispensers and Ice Makers

- Flush refrigerator water dispensers for at least **5 minutes**, or according to the manufacturer's instructions.
 - Throw away any ice made during the boil water order.
 - Discard the next **three batches of ice** after service is restored.
 - Clean and sanitize the ice bin before using it again.
 - Replace refrigerator water filters if recommended by the manufacturer.
-

4. Water Filters and Treatment Devices

- Replace or flush point-of-use filters, faucet filters, refrigerator filters, and in-line filters according to the manufacturer's instructions.
 - If you have a whole-house filter, reverse osmosis system, water softener, or other treatment system, follow the manufacturer's restart or sanitation instructions.
 - If you are unsure whether a filter should be replaced, replace it before using the water for drinking or cooking.
-

5. Dishwashers, Washing Machines, and Other Appliances

- Run an empty dishwasher cycle using the **sanitize cycle** if available.
 - Run appliances connected to water lines according to the manufacturer's instructions.
 - Flush or clean any appliance that stores or dispenses water.
 - Laundry may be done as usual after the order is lifted.
-

6. Showers, Bathtubs, and Toilets

- Run showers and bathtub faucets for about **5 minutes** using a mix of hot and cold water.
 - Flush and clean toilets.
 - Clean faucet handles, showerheads, and other fixtures if they may have been exposed to contaminated water.
-

7. Outdoor Faucets and Hoses

- Disconnect hoses, sprinklers, pressure washers, or other attachments.
- Run each outdoor spigot for at least **5 minutes**.

- Do not drink from hoses or outdoor spigots until they have been flushed.
-

8. Stored Water, Drinks, and Food

Discard the following if they were made with tap water during the boil water order:

- Ice.
 - Prepared drinks.
 - Coffee, tea, or juice made with unboiled tap water.
 - Baby formula made with unboiled tap water.
 - Foods rinsed or prepared with unboiled tap water and not cooked afterward.
 - Water stored in pitchers, jugs, coffee makers, humidifiers, CPAP reservoirs, or other containers.
-

9. Pets

- Wash pet water bowls with soap and water.
 - Refill bowls with fresh tap water after household plumbing has been flushed.
 - Discard any pet water that was set out during the boil water order.
-

10. Medical, Dental, and Health Devices

- Empty and rinse humidifiers, CPAP machines, oral irrigators, and similar devices.
 - Refill devices with water recommended by the device manufacturer.
 - Follow manufacturer cleaning instructions.
 - Contact your healthcare provider if you have questions about immune-system risks or medical device cleaning.
-

11. Customers in Apartments, Condos, and Multi-Family Buildings

- Follow the same household flushing steps listed above.
 - Property managers should flush common-area fixtures, laundry rooms, drinking fountains, irrigation connections, and shared plumbing as applicable.
 - Residents should still flush their own faucets, refrigerators, ice makers, and appliances.
-

