

TIPS TO FOLLOW DURING A BOIL ALERT

DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST. Bring all water to a rolling boil for **at least one (1) minute**, then allow it to cool before use, **OR** use bottled water. Boiling water kills bacteria and other organisms that may be present.

- Use **boiled or bottled water** for:
 - Drinking
 - Making ice
 - Brushing teeth
 - Washing dishes
 - Food preparation

The water leak may also cause low water pressure or a temporary loss of water as well as additional disruptions in water quality including discolored water and/or potentially a temporary increase in lead levels in the drinking water. As a standard practice the USEPA recommends the following actions to reduce possible lead exposure in drinking water:

- If water has not been used for several hours, run the tap until there is a noticeable temperature drop. Then, run water for 30 seconds to 3 minutes before using it for drinking and cooking. This helps flush water that may contained lead that leached from plumbing.
- Use cold water for cooking, drinking, and preparing baby formula. Boiling the water will not reduce lead.
- Clean your faucet aerator regularly.

General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791 or visit Drinktap.org and www.epa.gov/safewater.