



We would like to remind all food establishments that operation during a water outage or sewage back-up in the kitchen area is not permitted. These violations are examples of imminent health hazards and may lead to immediate suspension or revocation of a permit. Please contact McDowell County Environmental Health (828-652-2921) so that we may assist you during such an event.

§ 130A-23. Suspension and revocation of permits and program participation.

(d) A permit shall be suspended or revoked immediately if a violation of the Chapter, the rules or a condition imposed upon the permit presents an imminent hazard.

How to Operate Safely During a Boil Water Advisory

Please follow the following guidelines until the Boil Water Advisory is lifted.

- Boil water for 1 minute before using.
- Use single-service articles only.
- Use hand sanitizer as a backup method for handwashing.
- Do not wash fruits and vegetables
- Do not use ice from ice machine.
- Do not use fountain drink machines.

How To Resume Normal Operations after a Boil Water Advisory is Lifted

After either the municipality or regulatory authority has provided notice that the water supply is safe to use, the operator must verify the following has been completed:

- Flush pipes/faucets: follow the directions of your water utility (in the newspaper, radio, or television) or, as general guidance, run cold water faucets for at least 5 minutes.
- Equipment with water line connections such as post-mix beverage machines, spray misters, coffee or tea urns, ice machines, glass washers, dishwashers, and other equipment with water connections must be flushed, cleaned, and sanitized in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Attention should be given to waterline strainers, faucet aerators and faucet screens.
- Run water softeners through a regeneration cycle.
- Drain reservoirs in tall buildings.
- Flush hot water tank.
- Flush drinking fountains: run continuously for 5 minutes.
- Water Filter cartridges should be replaced and canisters sanitized.

Rutherford County Health Department
221 Callahan Koon Road
Spindale, NC 28160 USA
Phone: (828) 287-6317
Fax: (828) 287-6479

McDowell County Health Department
408 Spaulding Road
Marion, NC 28752 USA
Phone: (828) 652-2921
Fax: (828) 652-2019



Ice Machine Sanitation:

- Flush the water line to the machine inlet.
- Close the valve on the water line behind the machine and disconnect the waterline from the machine inlet.
- Open the valve, run 5 gallons of water through the valve and dispose of the water.
- Close the valve and reconnect the line.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact McDowell County Environmental Health Services at (828) 652-2921 or mcdowellenv@foothillshd.org

Thank you for your cooperation.

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