



# BOIL WATER NOTICES

*What you need to know*

## WHAT ARE BOIL WATER NOTICES?

A boil water notice is a **precautionary** health advisory issued when the water supply may be contaminated, urging residents to boil tap water for safety before consumption.



## WHY ARE BOIL WATER NOTICES ISSUED?

Potential contamination can result from various factors such as water main breaks, heavy rainfall, or other events that compromise the integrity of the water distribution system.

Again, boil water notices are primarily issued as a precautionary measure, emphasizing that although the water may often be safe, it is a proactive step taken to ensure public health and well-being.

## HOW TO HEAR ABOUT BOIL WATER NOTICES

The City of Gautier will send out Boil Water Notices via Facebook posts and push notifications through the City of Gautier App.



Boil Water Advisory Signs will be posted in the affected areas.

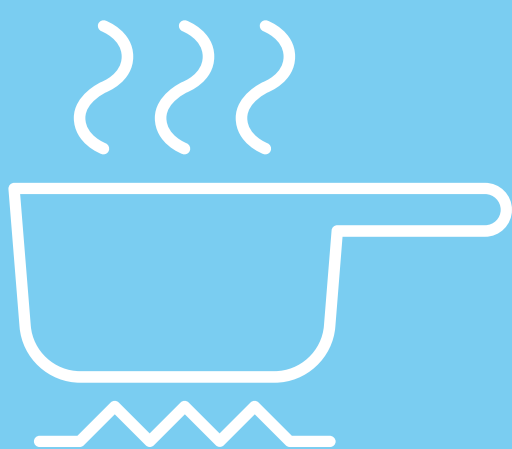
In the event that a significantly large portion of the City will be under a boil water-notice, local news outlets will be notified as well.

The City of Gautier App is available in Apple's App Store and the Google Play Store. Simply search 'City of Gautier' in your device's app store to download it. Be sure to enable notifications to stay up to date.

*Currently, Facebook has not granted permission for the City's Facebook page to issue public alerts. We are actively pursuing this, but in the meantime, please follow the City of Gautier on Facebook and consider downloading the app.*

## WHAT PRECAUTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN?

- Avoid consuming tap water; use boiled or bottled water for drinking and making beverages.
- If cooking with tap water, ensure it's boiled for at least one minute.
- Use boiled water or bleach-disinfected water for washing dishes, fruits, and vegetables; avoid using the dishwasher.
- Brush teeth with boiled or bottled water.
- Bathing is safe; just ensure no water is swallowed.
- Laundry is safe using hot or cold water as usual.



## HOW TO PROPERLY DISINFECT WATER

Boil water for 1 minute or, if unable, add eight drops of unscented bleach per gallon, let stand for 30 minutes. Chlorine or iodine tablets are alternative options.

## WHAT TO DO WHEN A BOIL WATER NOTICE IS LIFTED

- Ensure each faucet is flushed for a minimum of 2 minutes.
- Discard all beverages, ice, and food prepared during the boil water notice. Re-wash utensils and dishware with cleared system water.
- Check and replace water filters in faucets, refrigerators, and elsewhere if needed.
- Avoid using water from your hot water heater for drinking until the tank has undergone several exchanges.
- Run the dishwasher through one or two cycles before washing dishes.

## ? FAQs ?

How do I know what area(s) are effected in a boil-water notice?

Each boil-water notice will detail, in writing, the specific streets and areas affected. While the City will aim to provide a map highlighting the impacted areas, the primary focus is on issuing the notice ***promptly***. Immediate map availability may not always be possible, so it is crucial to carefully review the listed streets and areas for accurate information.

At what point does a water main break constitute a boil water notice?

In the event of a water main break, a boil water notice will be issued if there is a significant loss in water pressure to the affected area.