

## **Citywide Boil Water Advisory Effective Until Further Notice**

**Posted: October 04, 2015**

City officials remind **all water customers** to vigorously boil their water for at least one (1) full minute prior to drinking or cooking.

The City of Columbia has experienced numerous water line breaks throughout its distribution system. In addition, the Canal Water Treatment Plant is experiencing historically difficult conditions which may impact finished water quality. These factors could possibly result in bacterial contamination of the water. Water customers should continue to vigorously boil their water for at least one (1) full minute prior to drinking or cooking until otherwise notified by the City of Columbia Water Works. Also, any ice made from water that has not been boiled should not be used for drinking purposes.

The City of Columbia Water Works is presently working to correct the problem.

All food processors and restaurants should comply with prescribed USDA and SC DHEC recommendations, respectively. Should you have any questions pertaining to this advisory, please call the Lexington/Richland County Environmental Services at 896-0620 or the South Carolina Hospitality Association at 765-9000.

Questions concerning healthcare facilities such as hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities should be directed to the SC DHEC Division of Health Licensing at 545-4370.

The City of Columbia Customer Care Call Center, 545-3300, may answer other inquiries concerning this Advisory

- Boil your water vigorously for at least one minute before drinking or cooking.
- Don't use any appliances that might require drinkable water like dish washers, ice machines, drinking fountains, etc.
- Don't use water from the tap to wash food, dishes, or your hands. Use water that has been boiled and cooled for this purpose.
- Food service businesses should follow all applicable state and federal regulations as well. See SC DHEC's [Food Safety for Industry](#) for more information.