



## Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division

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## What to do after a Boil Water or Do Not Drink Notice is lifted

If you are on a public water system that lifts a Boil Water or Do Not Drink notice, take the following steps to clear your own plumbing of potentially contaminated water:

- Flush household pipes and faucets: Run your cold-water faucets on full for at least five minutes each. If your service connection is long or complex (as in an apartment building), contact your building superintendent or landlord for guidance on longer flushing times.
- Automatic ice makers: Dump existing ice and flush the water feed lines by making and discarding three batches of ice cubes (five batches if your water feed line is longer than 20 feet). Wipe down the ice bin with a disinfectant before making new batches of ice.
- Hot water heaters, water coolers, in line filters, and other appliances with direct water connections or water tanks: Run enough water to completely replace at least one full volume of all lines and tanks. If your filters are near the end of their life, replace them.
- Water Softeners, Reverse Osmosis (RO) units, and other specialty treatments: Refer to manual or provider for system-specific maintenance
- Other water filters: Replace any disposable filter as they may be contaminated. This applies especially to carbon filters in fridges, Brita-type pitcher filters and other filters that are near the end of their life.