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Boil Water Advisory in Midland's East Pressure Zone

Attention: Physicians, Hospitals, CNE, ER Manager, ER Physician, Infection Control Practitioners, Occupational Health Professionals, Community Health Centres, Walk-In Urgent Care Clinic, Nurse Practitioner, Ontario Health, Ontario Health Teams, Midwives, Family Health Team, Indigenous Healthcare & Community, Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, Paramedic Services, Corrections

Date: August 27, 2024

Due to a watermain break, residents and businesses within [Midland's East Pressure Zone](#) as indicated on the attached map, are being [advised to boil their water](#). This advisory remains in effect until further notice and will be lifted once the safety of the water has been confirmed by laboratory tests.

Dental Settings

For dental offices, the implications are that water from public systems cannot be used in any dental treatment or for hand hygiene or reprocessing. The Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario, Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines 2018, [page 30 provides specific guidance for dental offices on the precautions that must be taken](#).

Postpone treatment if possible or use distilled or bottled water through a closed delivery system while also considering the use of single use disposable instruments where able. Reprocessing equipment that connects to waterlines must not be used, such as Hydrim Washers etc. Use alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) with 70-90% alcohol for hand hygiene and if hands are contaminated or visibly soiled, use distilled or bottled water and antimicrobial soap. Once the boil water advisory has ended, all taps and waterlines need to be flushed for five minutes and all dental waterlines in dental units and equipment must be disinfected according to manufacturer's instructions prior to use.

All other settings

If you are operating a business within the affected area, please review the following key messages recommended by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU):

- Pressure may be restored but it does not mean that the water is safe for use.
- Do not allow patients, visitors or staff to drink water.
 - Bring water to a rolling boil for at least one minute and allow it to cool down before use. As an alternative, use bottled water or commercially treated water from an approved source noting that these sources are not considered sterile.
- Do not use water for handwashing, use alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) with 70-90% alcohol to clean hands.
 - If hands are visibly soiled, use moistened towelettes to clean hands, followed by ABHR.
 - Signage should be in place to remind staff, patients, and visitors



- Enact contingency plans for critical equipment connected to the main water system and for reprocessing of medical equipment.
 - Single use items are permitted to be used or items reprocessed prior to August 26, 2024
 - Do not use any water for preparing medications or formula.

There is general information on the SMDHU website regarding what to do during a boil water advisory at this [link](#):

Affected Area

