



Boil Water Notice 27 February 2023

BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USE

The Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality would like to advise consumers to boil tap water before ingestion.

With the Metro experiencing the worst drought of its kind, the quality of our water has deteriorated. The addition of unblended ground water into the reticulation system, low dam levels and fluctuating reservoir levels, has led to a constant change in water quality and it cannot be 100 percent guaranteed. The change of quality relates to chemical parameters and is not bacteriological.

Additional water has been introduced into the water reticulation system through boreholes as means to supplement the water supply to the Metro. Through a system of blending water from different water sources, a blending ratio is used to meet SANS241: 2015 water quality standards. Currently, the decline of the water supply sources such as the Churchill Dam (currently vulnerable/unstable), which has dropped to below abstraction rates, has resulted in the blending ratio not being met and therefore the water needs to be boiled as a precautionary act.

Recommendations

Residents should do the following until further notice:

General

- Use bottled or boiled water for drinking, and to prepare and cook food.
- If bottled water is not available, bring water to a full rolling boil for 1 minute. After boiling, allow the water to cool before use.
- Boil tap water even if it is filtered (e.g. by a home water filter or a pitcher that filters water).
- Do not use water from any appliance connected to your water line, such as ice and water from a refrigerator.
- Breastfeeding is the best infant feeding option. If you formula feed your child, provide ready-to-use formula, if possible.

Handwashing

- In many cases you can still use tap water and soap to wash hands during a boil water advisory. Follow the guidance from your local public health officials.
- Be sure to scrub your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Then, rinse them well under running water.
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Bathing and showering

- Be careful not to swallow any water when bathing or showering.
- Use caution when bathing babies and young children. Consider giving them a sponge bath to reduce the chance of them swallowing water.

Brushing teeth

- Brush teeth with boiled or bottled water. Do not use tap water that you have not boiled first.

Washing dishes

- If possible, use disposable plates, cups and utensils during a boil water advisory.
- Household dishwashers generally are safe to use if:
 - The water reaches a final rinse temperature of at least 66° Celsius, or
 - The dishwasher has a sanitising cycle.
- Sanitise all baby bottles.
- To wash dishes by hand:
 - Wash and rinse the dishes as you normally would using hot water.
 - In a separate basin, add 1 teaspoon of unscented household liquid bleach for each litre of warm water.

- Soak the rinsed dishes in the water for at least one minute.
- Let the dishes air dry completely before using again.

Laundry

- It is safe to wash clothes as usual.

Cleaning

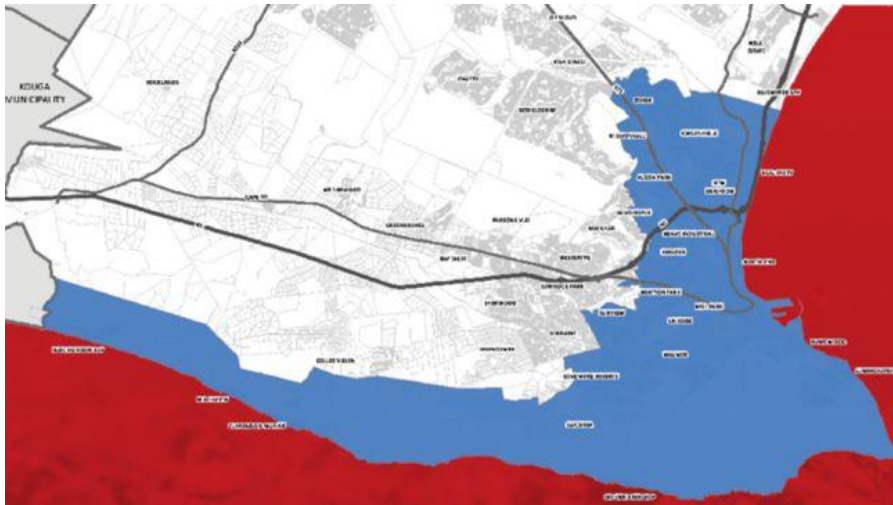
- Clean washable toys and surfaces with:
 - Bottled water,
 - Boiled water, or
 - Water that has been disinfected

Caring for pets

- Pets can get sick from some of the same germs as people or spread germs to people. Give pets bottled water or boiled water that has cooled.
- If bottled water is not available, bring water to a full rolling boil for 1 minute (at elevations above 6 500 feet, boil for 3 minutes). After boiling, allow the water to cool before use.
- Boil tap water even if it is filtered (e.g. by a home water filter or a pitcher that filters water).
- Do not use water from any appliance connected to your water line, such as ice and water from a refrigerator.

Caring for your garden and houseplants

- You can use tap water for household plants and gardens.



**TOGETHER
WE CAN
ADOPT A WATER
SAVING LIFESTYLE**

CONSUMERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BOIL WATER BEFORE INGESTION

AFFECTED AREAS INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- Algoa Park
- Beachview
- Blue Horizon Bay
- Clarendon Marine
- Deal Party
- Fairview
- Gelvandale
- Humewood
- Korsten
- KwaZakhele
- Linkside
- Lovemore Heights
- Mill Park
- Missionvale
- Neave Industrial
- New Brighton
- Newton Park
- North End
- Sardinia Bay
- Schoenmakerskop
- Summerstrand
- Walmer
- Zwide

Note: This is a precautionary measure as the groundwater being discharged into the water network does not chemically comply to SANS:241, but is microbiologically safe.



☎ Report water leaks: 0800 20 50 50

✉ waterleaks@mandelametro.gov.za