

BOIL WATER NOTICE ISSUED to all towns throughout BVM

Due to Eskom's announcement of stage 6 load-shedding, a boil-water notice is hereby issued to all towns throughout BVM with immediate effect. As previously communicated, water- and wastewater treatment operations are adversely impacted during higher stages of load-shedding (as per media release published on 26 September 2022):

Treatment with chlorine to disinfect the drinking water remains ongoing however, the residual chlorine in the system is depleted and disinfection efficiency could decrease during higher stages of load-shedding (5 and above). As precautionary measure, all BVM residents must boil their drinking water to ensure the water is absolutely safe for consumption. BVM will continuously test and monitor the quality of the drinking water and will inform residents when the water is safe for consumption to a degree where precautionary boiling is no longer required.

Water Boiling Requirements

- Boil water for at least 1 minute to use for drinking purposes.
- Let it cool down.
- Store cold boiled drinking water in clean food grade container and cover the container.

Alternative disinfection method for water

- Household chlorine bleach kills most pathogens.
- Do not use scented bleaches, colour-safe bleaches, bleaches with added cleaners or non-chlorine bleach.
- Bleach works best when added to warm water that is about 20°C (68°F).
- Mix:
 - 2 drops (0.1 mL) of household bleach (about 5.25% chlorine) with 1 litre (4 cups) of water.
 - Cover and let stand for 30 minutes before drinking. You should notice a slight chlorine smell after the 30 minutes. If not, add another 2 drops. Let the water stand for another 15 minutes. If the water is cloudy, or colder than 10°C (50°F), double the amount of bleach added.
 - Cover it and let it stand for 1 to 2 hours before drinking. The longer the treated water stands the better it works to disinfect.
 - To reduce chlorine taste, let the water stand uncovered for a few hours, or pour it back and forth from one clean container to another several times. If using chlorine tablets, follow the directions on the package.



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