

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este aviso contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Para una copia en español, favor de llamar al sistema de agua (805) 595-2348

San Miguelito Mutual Water Company April 30, 2025

BOIL WATER NOTICE

Boil Your Water Before Drinking or Food Preparation to Avoid Illness

Customers in the Five-Cities area are advised to only use boiled tap water or bottled water for drinking and cooking purposes as a safety precaution to avoid stomach or intestinal illness. This advisory comes from the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, the County of San Luis Obispo Public Works Department, the County Health Department, and the Lopez Project water system due to samples collected April 28 and April 29, 2025, indicating the presence of bacteria in the water.

The affected areas include: **San Luis Bay Estates, Residential, Commercial areas including Avila Village and San Luis Bay Inn.**

San Miguelito Mutual Water Company will inform you when tests show that water is safe to drink, and you no longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolving the problem within 48 to 72 hours.

If you have questions about other uses of tap water, such as bathing and dish washing, please call your water system or read this guidance: https://waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/documents/notices/cdc_wtd_bw_advisory.docx

SMMWC has discontinued receiving Lopez Project Water and is currently using our well water supply.

Please bring a clean water container (5 gallons maximum capacity).

Do not drink the water without boiling it first

- Boil all water for one (1) minute (rolling boil).
- Let water cool before drinking.
- Use boiled or bottled water for drinking, brushing teeth, and food preparation until further notice.
- Boiling water kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.

If you are unable to boil your water:

Household unscented liquid bleach

- For clear water, use 8 drops (1/8 tsp.) of bleach for 1 gallon of water. For cloudy water, filter through a clean cloth and use 16 drops (1/4 tsp.) of bleach for 1 gallon of water.
- Mix well. Allow to stand for 30 minutes before using.
- Water may taste or smell like chlorine. This means disinfection has occurred.

Water disinfection tablets

- Please follow the manufacturer's instructions.

For More Information

If you are concerned about your health or the health of a family member, contact your health care provider or County of San Luis Obispo Health Department.

Water Utility contact: Ryan Smith, Assistant General Manager, (805) 704-8095 1561 Sparrow St. San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

State Water Resources Control Board District Office: (805) 566-5339

Local Environmental Health Jurisdiction: San Luis Obispo County at (805) 781-5544

Please share or post this information with others who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Fact Sheet About What to Do During a Boil Water Advisory

Boiling water

To boil water

- Fill a pot with water.
- Heat the water until bubbles come from the bottom of the pot to the top.
- Once the water reaches a rolling boil, let it boil for 1 minute.
- Turn off the heat source and let the water cool.
- Pour the water into a clean container with a cover for storage.

Disinfecting water

If you are unable to boil your water, disinfect it instead.

If tap water is clear:

- Use unscented bleach (bleach that does not have an added scent).
- Add 1/8 teaspoon (8 drops or about 0.75 milliliters) of unscented household liquid bleach to 1 gallon (16 cups) of water.
- Mix well and wait 30 minutes or more before drinking.
- Store disinfected water in clean container with a cover.

If tap water is cloudy:

- Filter water using clean cloth.
- Use unscented bleach (bleach that does not have an added scent).
- Add 1/4 teaspoon (16 drops or 1.5 milliliters) of unscented household liquid bleach to 1 gallon (16 cups) of water.
- Mix well and wait 30 minutes or more before drinking.
- Store disinfected water in clean container with a cover.

Remember that containers may need to be sanitized before using them to store safe water.

To sanitize containers:

- Use unscented bleach (bleach that does not have an added scent).
- Make a sanitizing solution by mixing 1 teaspoon (5 milliliters) of unscented household liquid bleach in 1 quart (32 ounces, 4 cups, or about 1 liter) of water.
- Pour this sanitizing solution into a clean storage container and shake well, making sure that the solution coats the entire inside of the container.

- Let the clean storage container sit at least 30 seconds, and then pour the solution out of the container.
- Let empty container air dry OR rinse it with clean water that has already been made safe, if available. Never mix bleach with ammonia or other cleaners. Open windows and doors to get fresh air when you use bleach.

Water filters

Boil tap water even if it is filtered. Most kitchen and other household water filters typically **do not** remove bacteria or viruses.

Preparing and cooking food

- Wash all fruits and vegetables with boiled water that has cooled or bottled water.
- Bring water to a rolling boil for 1 minute before adding food to cook.
- Use boiled water when preparing drinks, such as coffee, tea, and lemonade
- Wash food preparation surfaces with boiled water.

Feeding babies and using formula

- Breastfeeding is best. Continue to breastfeed. If breastfeeding is not an option:
- Use ready-to-use baby formula, if possible.
- Prepare powdered or concentrated baby formula with bottled water. Use boiled water if you do not have bottled water. Disinfect water for baby formula if you cannot boil your water (see above for directions on how to use bleach to disinfect water).
- Wash and sterilize bottles and nipples before use.
- If you cannot sterilize bottles, try to use single-serve, ready-to-feed bottles.

Ice

- Do not use ice from ice trays, ice dispensers, or ice makers.
- Throw out all ice made with tap water.
- Make new ice with boiled or bottled water.

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 untreated tap water.

Washing dishes

Household dishwashers generally are safe to use if the water reaches a final rinse temperature of at least 150 degrees or if the dishwasher has a sanitizing cycle.

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 gallon of warm water.
- Soak the rinsed dishes in the water for at least one minute.
- Let the dishes air dry completely.

Laundry

It is safe to do laundry as usual.

Pets

Pets can get some of the same diseases as people. It is a good idea to give them boiled water that has been cooled.

For more information, see or contact:

- **Personal Preparation and Storage of Safe Water:** CDC provides guidance on the amount of water needed for good health, as well how to prepare and store safe water before and during an emergency.
- **Hygiene and Handwashing:** CDC provides guidance on alternative hygienic practices when water is not available or is contaminated.
- **A Guide to Water Filters:** CDC maintains a guide for filters that remove *Cryptosporidium* or *Giardia*.
- **EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline:** 1-800-426-4791
- **Consumer Information:** EPA provides information and guidance about drinking water quality, emergencies, contaminants, public health issues, and treatment and storage.
- **Water system:** [name, title, phone, e-mail, website]
- **State or local public health department:** [name, title, phone, e-mail, website]
- **Primacy Agency:** [name, title, phone, e-mail, website]