



Public Health
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**Mahoning County
District Board of Health**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE	CONTACT: Matt Stefanak (330) 270-2855 ext. 144
	DATE: March 16, 2012

**Boil Alert Instructions for
Licensed Food Establishments in Mahoning County**

Due to the Boil Alert issued by Youngstown Water, all licensed food establishments that receive their water supply from Youngstown Water in Mahoning County south of State Route 62 (Canfield Road) and Indianola Avenue must provide a potable source of water for all facets of water usage. A potable source of water is defined as water of sufficiently high quality that can be consumed or used without risk of immediate or long term harm.

To ensure the safety of residents, food service establishments need to either use bottled water or must boil their water, bringing it to a boil for at least one minute. Potable water must be used for hand washing, drinking, cooking, making ice, and washing dishes until further notice. For food prep areas, hand sanitizers are not recommended as a safe alternative to washing hands with soap and warm water.

If a licensed food establishment cannot supply a potable source of water, then the District Board of Health advises establishments to temporarily cease operations until the Boil Alert is removed.

Guidelines for restaurants on what to do when an interruption of potable water occurs can be found on our website at www.mahoninghealth.org .

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