

ANDREW J. SPANO, Westchester County Executive
JOSHUA LIPSMAN, M.D., J.D., M.P.H., Commissioner of Health
SUSAN TOLCHIN, Director of Communications

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2007

BOIL WATER ORDER

The Westchester County Department of Health today announced that a mandatory "boil water" order is in place for Westchester Joint Water Works customers in the West Harrison Silver Lake area. Residents and businesses in that area are directed to boil their water for a minimum of two minutes before consumption. Dentists should not use their friction water suppression systems.

The Health Commissioner has directed the Water District to notify all major users in the area. The boil water order was put in place by the Health Department due to unchlorinated water delivered into the system from 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. this morning. This constitutes a public health hazard.

A "boil water" order means that residents in the affected communities are instructed to boil all tap water at a roiling boil for a minimum of two minutes prior to consumption. The "boil water" order remains in effect until further notice.

As an alternative to boiling water, people may use bottled water. Water used for bathing, washing dishes and washing clothes does NOT have to be boiled. Boiled or bottled water should be used for brushing teeth. Public water fountains in schools and other public places should be covered to prevent members of the public from drinking water.

Residents who wish to verify if they are in the impacted area should contact Westchester Joint Water Works at 698-3500.

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