

Boil Water Advisory in Fish Creek

South Gippsland Water has received one sample result on 8 April, detecting levels of E. coli, a type of bacteria indicating potential contamination, in the Fish Creek system.

South Gippsland Water issued a Boil Water Advisory for Fish Creek. This does not affect any other systems or towns.

Managing Director, Robert Murphy, emphasised that the health and safety of customers were at the centre of this decision.

“Our decision to issue a Boil Water Advisory wasn’t one we took lightly. We know the effects it has on our community, from businesses to individual households, and to our workforce. An Advisory was the best way forward, as we do not to take risks with the health of our customers,” he said.

Mr Murphy said that South Gippsland Water is working hard to identify conditions that will enable the Boil Water Advisory to be rescinded. An update will be provided tomorrow, 10 April 2025.

“We don’t take risks with public health. Over the next few days, we ask that our customers continue to boil their water or fill up their food-grade containers from our water trailers. The Boil Water Advisory will only be lifted once we are fully confident that the drinking water in the Fish Creek system is safe. We want to thank the Fish Creek community for working with us and for remaining patient as we conduct further testing and continue corrective measures,” he said.

A water trailer will remain available throughout the whole Boil Water Advisory period at the e-charging station opposite the Fish Creek Hotel.

Mr Murphy says, “We are confirming the results of this one sample, by further sampling overnight and tomorrow morning. This will inform any corrective actions we undertake. Only when these water quality results show that the water is safe for consumption will we be able to lift the Boil Water Advisory.

To stay up to date, please follow us on Facebook and Instagram or visit our website www.sgwater.com.au. For further questions, please call our service centre on 1300 851 636.

BOIL WATER FAQs:

Customers should bring water to a rolling boil by heating it until a continuous and rapid stream of air bubbles is produced from the bottom of a pan or kettle. Electric kettles/jugs with automatic cut-off switches are suitable for

producing boiled water. Variable temperature kettles should be set to boil. Allow boiled water to cool before using it. Cooled, boiled water may be stored in clean closed containers for later use.

Customers should boil all water used for:

- Drinking and preparing beverages;
- Brushing teeth, gargling, and cleaning/soaking dentures;
- Washing and preparing food;
- Preparing baby formula;
- Making ice;
- Drinking water for pets.

Unboiled water can be used for:

- Showering and bathing (but residents should avoid swallowing water. As a precaution, babies and young children should be sponge-bathed);
- Washing dishes by hand or in a dishwasher, providing dishes are air-dried before being used after washing.
- Stock animals.

END