

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Precautionary Boil Water Notice Issued For Residents Of Frederiksted Town

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The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Wednesday evening issued what it said was a precautionary boil water notice for potable water customers in the town of Frederiksted. WAPA said due to a drop in water pressure, as a precaution, it was advising that all water used for drinking, cooking, making infant formula or juices, making ice, brushing teeth, washing fruits or vegetables and washing dishes, be boiled.

Bringing water to a rolling boil and maintaining for one full minute is sufficient, the authority said. Water must be adequately cooled before it can be used and should be stored in clean, covered containers.

WAPA explained that water pressure keeps pollutants from entering the underground pipes that bring drinking water to homes and businesses.

This notice does not mean that the water is contaminated, WAPA stressed, it means it is possible for contaminants to enter the pipes and affect potable water.

"Until the required bacteriological testing is completed, we recommend, as a precaution boiling tap water before it is used to kill any potential contaminants," said the authority.

WAPA's microbiology water quality laboratory technicians were monitoring the system for any irregularities that may occur. "They take great care in ensuring that your water is safe to drink and we appreciate your corporation with this precautionary boil water notice," said WAPA. "The public will be updated accordingly regarding WAPA's system monitoring evaluations."

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