



"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21ST

CENTURY" **Sewerage & Water
Board** OF NEW ORLEANS

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NEW ORLEANS RESIDENTS STRONGLY URGED TO LIMIT WATER USE

**PRECAUTIONARY BOIL WATER ADVISORY LIFTED FOR NEW ORLEANS EAST,
VENETIAN ISLES, LAKE CATHERINE AND IRISH BAYOU**

New Orleans – Sewerage and Water Board (S&WB), in consultation with the Louisiana Department of Health, has cancelled the precautionary boil water advisory for residents and businesses in New Orleans East. Bacteriological tests confirmed that water in those areas is safe to drink and can be used personal needs.

That does not, however, mean residents should return to using water at normal rates. The water pressure citywide remains stable but well below normal average levels. S&WB is urging residents to continue limiting water use to avoid adding strain to the system as water pressure rises.

"Lifting this advisory is good news, but we can't stress enough how important it is for people to continue to limit the water they use," **said Marcie Edwards, Interim Executive Director of the Sewerage and**

Board. “Please refrain from washing laundry or washing your car, or any high-volume water activities through the rest of the weekend. Please keep it limited to the most essential personal use as we work to raise water pressure city side.”

“I want to thank residents for their continued patience,” Edwards said. “I’d also like to thank city officials for their support and especially the hardworking employees of S&WB who continue to work around the clock answer reports of leaks and helping to ensure New Orleans’ drinking water is safe for all.”

During the prolonged freeze, water pressure dropped below the acceptable level of 15 psi because of leaks from frozen, broken pipes and a long period of near-constant water use. As pressure returns to normal levels, more leaks may become evident. Beyond conservation, residents are urged to closely inspect their property for any leaks. If one is found, they should shut off water to their properties and call a licensed plumber.

Residents can shut off their water supply by following these steps:

Locate your main water valve: Your main water valve may be found along an exterior wall of your home.

Turn the valve handle clockwise: This will immediately stop the flow of water into your home. Use a wrench if it is difficult to turn by hand.

Thank you for your immediate attention in helping us conserve water, fix pipes, and report leaks.

You can report leaks in your neighborhood by calling 52-WATER and follow S&WB on Twitter [@SWBNewOrleans](https://twitter.com/SWBNewOrleans).

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