

Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's
Boil Order and Use of a Source Water By-Law

Pursuant to the authority conferred in section 7 of the *Towns and Local Service Districts Act, 2025*, the Town Council of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's has adopted the following regulations on December 19, 2024.

1. TITLE

- 1.1. This document will be known and cited as the *Boil Order and Use of a Source of Water By-Law*.

2. PURPOSE

- 2.1. The purpose of this by-law is to establish boil water advisories and non-consumption advisories or to restrict use of any water source (e.g. pond/lake) considered by health professionals to be dangerous and/or hazardous to public health and safety.
- 2.2. To develop a communication plan to ensure that the public is given accurate information about the boil water advisory or any other water source considered to be dangerous and/or hazardous to the public health, in a timely fashion.

3. INTERPRETATION/DEFINITION

- 3.1. "**Council**" shall mean the Town Council of Portugal Cove – St. Philip's.
- 3.2. "**Province**" shall mean the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.
- 3.3. "**Town**" shall mean the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's.

4. APPLICATION

- 4.1. This by-law applies to all members of the public.
- 4.2. A boil water advisory recommended by the Medical Officer of Health or an official of the Government Services Centre must be acted upon immediately.
- 4.3. As the owner or operator of the drinking water supply, you must **immediately alert all users of your water supply** that drinking water must be boiled before being consumed or place restrictions on any other water source considered to be dangerous and/or hazardous to the public health and safety.
- 4.4. Inform consumers at regular intervals about the boil water advisory.
- 4.5. Consumers can be alerted in several ways. A combination of these may be necessary to inform all consumers:
- 4.5.1. Use local media outlets (e.g., radio, television, newspapers);
 - 4.5.2. Town voyant alerts;
 - 4.5.3. Town Website;
 - 4.5.4. Social media;
 - 4.5.5. Post boil water advisory notices in people's mailboxes;

- 4.5.6. Place warning signs on water taps at places where water is made available to consumers (e.g., gas stations, restaurants, campgrounds, schools);
- 4.5.7. Post warning signs near water sources;
- 4.5.8. Knock on individual doors and inform people verbally etc.

5. PURPOSE

- 5.1. The purpose of this by-law is to establish boil water advisories and non-consumption advisories and to restrict use of any water source (e.g. pond/lake) considered by health professionals to be dangerous and/or hazardous to public health and safety.

6. BY-LAW STATEMENT

- 6.1. Digital Government and Service NL and the Department of Health and Community Services are jointly responsible for monitoring the bacteriological quality of public water supplies in the province. This sampling activity is carried out on a regular basis by Environmental Health Officers located throughout the province. Boil water advisories are issued when water sampling and testing detects higher than accepted amounts of coliforms (bacteria) or if there are deficiencies with regard to chlorination or other forms of disinfection. In such cases, the results are immediately communicated to affected communities for appropriate action. The information is also passed along to regional Medical Officers of Health to advise that action has been taken with the community, and for any follow-up that may be necessary by the public health system.
- 6.2. When circumstances arise where town officials believe it is in the interest of public health to do so the Town official will issue a boil water order that will be in immediate effect in the community.
- 6.3. A boil water advisory will remain until it is lifted by Town officials.
- 6.4. Business and establishments that serve water to the public must comply with the guidelines established by the province while the boil water advisory is in effect.
- 6.5. If a circumstance arises where another source of water is being used for consumption in the community the Town Officials may restrict the use of such water if there is a need related to public health and safety.
- 6.6. The details of such a restriction would be set on a case-by-case bases and set out through a resolution of Council.
- 6.7. It is recommended that citizens follow guidelines established by the province (Digital Government and Service NL and the Department of Health and Community Services) when preparing and consuming water during a boil water advisory.

7. PENALTIES

7.1. Penalties may be applied in accordance with Division 6 of the *Towns and Local Service Districts Act*.

7.2. This by-law shall not exclude the application of other penalties not expressly listed.

8. REPEAL OF PREVIOUS BY-LAWS AND AMENDMENTS

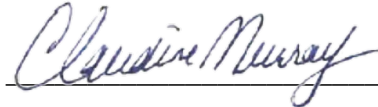
8.1. None

9. CAME INTO EFFECT

These Regulations first came into effect on January 1, 2025, through a resolution of Council, # 2024-497.



Carol McDonald, Mayor



Claudine Murray, Town Clerk